



सत्यमेव जयते

**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**  
**RAJYA SABHA**

**DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING  
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
HUNDRED SECOND REPORT**

**ON**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 2001-2002 (DEMAND NO. 39) OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN SYSTEMS OF MEDICINE & HOMOEOPATHY  
(MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE)**

**(PRESENTED TO THE RAJYA SABHA ON 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2001)  
(LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA ON 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2001)**

**RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI  
APRIL, 2001/VAISAKHA, 1923 (SAKA)**

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**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE  
(2001-2002)**

1. Shri S.B. Chavan  $\frac{3}{4}$  *Chairman*

**MEMBERS**

**RAJYA SABHA**

Shri Maurice Kujur  
Shri Akhilesh Das  
Shri Eduardo Faleiro  
Shri Rajnath Singh "Surya"  
Shri Dina Nath Mishra

Prof. R. B. S. Varma  
Shri Bratin Sengupta  
Shrimati Kamala Sinha  
Dr. Ramendra Kumar Yadav "Ravi"  
Chaudhary Harmohan Singh Yadav  
Shri Mrinal Sen  
Dr. C. Narayana Reddy

## **LOK SABHA**

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Shri Shankar Prasad Jaiswal  
Shri Ramakant Angle  
Shri Kirti Jha Azad  
Shri Baliram Kashyap  
Shri Ramanand Singh  
Shri Dileep Sanghani  
Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan  
Shri G. S. Baswaraj  
Shri V. M. Sudheeran  
Shrimati Shyama Singh  
Shri Sunil Dutt  
Shri Ramesh Chennithala  
Shri Kantilal Bhuriya  
Dr. Ram Chandra Dome  
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Dr. D.V.G. Shankar Rao  
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Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul  
Dr. Baliram  
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Shri Trilochan Kanungo  
Shri Mohammed Anwarul Haque  
Shri Vanlal Zawma  
Shrimati Kumudini Patnaik  
Shri S.B.P.B.K. Satyanarayana Rao  
Dr. S. Venugopal

## **SECRETARIAT**

Shri Satish Kumar, Additional Secretary  
Smt. Vandana Garg, Director  
Shri C.B. Rai, Under Secretary  
Shri Ratan Kumar Sahoo, Research Officer  
Shri P. Narayanan, Committee Officer

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## **PREFACE**

I, the Chairman of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development, having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on its behalf, do hereby present this Hundred - Second Report of the Committee on the Demands for Grants (Demand No.39) of the Department of Indian

Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the year 2001-2002.

2. The Committee considered the various documents and relevant papers received from the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and also heard the Secretary and other Officials of that Department on the said Demands for Grants in its meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2001.

3. The Committee considered the Draft Report and adopted the same in its meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2001.

NEW DELHI;

April 11, 2001

Chaitra 21, 1923 (Saka)

S.B. CHAVAN

Chairman,

Department-related Parliamentary

Standing Committee on

Human Resource Development

## REPORT

### I INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy (ISM&H) was set up by the Government of India as an independent Department in March, 1995 under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The main objective of the Department is to develop and promote Indian Systems of medicine, namely, Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Homoeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy in an organized and scientific manner in the country.

1.2 For the 9<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan, the Department identified the following six thrust areas for the development and growth of systems.

Improvement and upgradation of standards of education in ISM&H

Standardisation of drugs and quality control

Research and Development

Ensuring sustained availability of raw materials, ie.. medicinal plants, metals, minerals and materials of animal origin etc.

Participation of ISM&H in the National Health Programme and Family Welfare Programmes

Information, Education and Communication (Publicity)

### II BUDGETARY ALLOCATION

2.1 The total allocation, both Plan and Non-Plan taken together, provided to the Department for the year 2000-2001 was Rs. 143.50 crores which was reduced to Rs. 134.14 crores at the RE stage. However, the Committee observes that Plan allocation was reduced from Rs. 100 crores to Rs. 90 crores due to general cut of 10% by the Ministry of Finance. This year the Department has been allocated Rs. 120 crores under Plan and Rs. 45.56 crores under Non-Plan.

2.2 The Committee was informed that the Department was given almost 100 percent increase in the Budget Provision of 2000-2001 as against Rs. 50 crores given in the previous year which put a strain on its absorption capacity. As a result, new schemes were to be planned and new ideas had to be generated and to see whether the State Govts. were keen on those ideas. The Department further informed that it was able to utilise an amount of Rs. 80 crores out of Rs. 90 crores allocated.

2.3 The Department further stated that as far as the adequacy of funds for 2001-2002 is concerned, the Plan allocation would suffice for meeting the requirements of existing activities. The Department also informed the Committee that the proposed increase of Rs. 20 crores has been earmarked mainly for Medicinal Plants and Quality Control and the amount will be utilised under different heads as under:-

(i) Strengthening of Pharmacopoeial Laboratory for

Indian Medicine (PLIM)/ Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeial

Laboratory (HPL)

- Rs. 3.00 crores

(ii) Setting up of National Board for Medicinal Plants

- Rs.16.10 crores

Innovative scheme for development of Medicinal

Plants

- Rs. 2.00 crores

(iv) Patent Cell for ISM intellectual property rights

- Rs. 0.63 crores

(v) National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune

- Rs. 0.12 crores.

The Committee hopes that the funds as earmarked for the specific activities mentioned above would be fully utilised.

2.4 The Committee observes that during the last three to four years the Department has been projecting high figures in the Budget Estimates for the schemes and subsequently it is drastically reduced at the RE stage and even that is not

being released/utilised. The Committee would like to know the reasons for the same. The Committee also observes that funds for the schemes are sometimes released in the month of February or March to the regional Units/Institutes. The Committee wonders whether there is any special financial rule specifically for the Department which says that the funds are not lapsable. The Committee feels that either the allocations have to be utilized or they should be surrendered at the close of the financial year. The Committee would like to be enlightened on this aspect.

### III AYURVEDA

3.1 The provision for Ayurveda under plan in BE 2000-2001 was Rs. 13.20 crores which was reduced to Rs. 12.55 crores in RE and in BE 2001-2002 the same has been increased to Rs. 12.96 crores. Justifying this trend of increase and decrease in allocation, the Department stated that the decrease was due to reduction in RE projection for Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha (CCRAS) from Rs. 7.56 crores to Rs. 6.88 crores on account of unspent balance of 1999-2000 available with CCRAS. The balance amount of Rs. 68.00 lakhs was released to CCRAS in March, 2000 for financial year 1999-2000 which could not be disbursed to the regional units in that financial year and had to be adjusted by deduction at RE stage.

3.2 The Department further submitted that the details of expenditure in Ayurveda under plan for 2000-2001 is as given below:-

*(Rs. in crores)*

Ayurveda	BE 2000-2001	Actual release
NIA, Jaipur	4.25	2.00
IPGTR, Jamnagar	0.75	0.75
CCRAS, New Delhi	7.56	5.26
RAV, New Delhi	0.44	0.41
NIMHANS, Bangalore	0.20	0.25
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>13.20</b>	<b>8.67</b>

The above table clearly shows that even the allocated funds have not been released to the institutions. The Committee would like to be apprised of the reasons why the allocated amount could not be released especially in the case of NIA, Jaipur and CCRAS, New Delhi.

3.3 Asked about the details of teaching posts in the National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA) the Department informed that the total number of sanctioned teaching posts in NIA is 79 and out of that 15 posts are lying vacant at present. All these vacancies were notified in the newspaper and applications were received by the Director, NIA for 5 posts of Lecturer which were scrutinized and steps are being taken to conduct interviews for these posts. However, these posts, lying vacant for more than a year, had lapsed as per DOPT orders and were required to be revived before being filled up, action for which is underway.

3.4 Attention of the Committee was also drawn to the fact that Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM) has recently proposed reduced norms for teaching staff for an Ayurvedic college, which was also under consideration of the Govt. According to this, the present strength of NIA, Jaipur is sufficient to handle teaching job of the Institute.

3.5 The Committee finds the situation very ironical. On the one hand, the Department says that more staff is required for NIA, Jaipur and steps are being taken to fill up the vacant posts. On the other hand, the CCIM has proposed reduced norms for teaching staff according to which the existing staff at NIA is sufficient. The Committee feels that this issue needs to be sorted out quickly and necessary action should be taken without further loss of time. The Committee, at the same time, is constrained to express its displeasure that the posts were allowed to remain vacant for such a long time as a result of which the posts lapsed. Such a situation could have been avoided if timely action to fill up the posts had been taken.

3.6 On the question of misleading advertisements appearing in magazines/newspapers, on Ayurvedic medicines, the Department in its written reply submitted that Secretary (IM&H) addressed all the Health Secretaries of State Government to set up a cell and invoke the provisions of Drugs & Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisement) Act in cases of objectionable advertisements. The State Govts. were also requested to furnish information periodically, about notices given, prosecutions launched, acquittal and conviction rates.

3.7 The Department further submitted that the Office of the Drug Controller, Thiruvananthapuram, Govt. of Kerala has taken action to prosecute manufacturing units for contravention of the Drug & Magic Remedies (Objectionable

Advertisement) Act & Rules 1954 and ten cases have been filed in the Court. Licensing Authority of State Govt. of Gujarat has sent a Nil report about action taken against the misleading advertisements. Other State Govts. have been reminded to take action against any misleading advertisements and send the periodical information in the prescribed format.

3.8 The Committee while appreciating the steps taken in this regard cautions the Department that merely receiving the prescribed Proforma from State Govts. would not suffice. The Committee also suggests that a monitoring cell for this purpose may be created under Advisor (Ayurveda) in the Department.

#### IV HOMOEOPATHY

4.1 For Homoeopathy the plan allocation was Rs. 8.20 crores in BE 2000-2001 which was raised to Rs. 8.49 crores at the RE stage. The allocation for 2001-2002 has been reduced to Rs. 8.27 crores. Commenting on the reduced allocation, the Department submitted that the increase at RE stage from Rs. 8.20 crores to Rs. 8.49 crores was mainly on account of additional allocation to NIH, Calcutta for renovation of existing building and the allocation for 2001-2002 reflects its normal spending pattern. The Committee observes that BE 2001-2002 has been kept almost at the same level of BE 2000-2001 and there is no increase at all.

4.2 In the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta there was a proposal for creation of additional posts for a 100 bed hospital as per the norms prescribed by the Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH). The Department last year stated that the matter would be taken up with the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance for getting the posts sanctioned as required. Asked about the progress made in this regard, the Department informed that as per the norms prescribed for a 100 bed hospital by CCH, National Institute of Homoeopathy submitted a proposal for creation of posts. However, on examination of the proposal it was found that it was different from the one suggested by the Cadre Review Committee and as such NIH was asked to submit a revised proposal for NIH as a whole including the hospital. The clarifications are still awaited from NIH.

4.3 The Department further informed that separately CCH considered modifications of the norms for the Colleges to make them more realistic. One of the proposals pertained to the minimum number of beds, according to which a hospital attached to a College must have at least 25 beds for indoor patients. The Department considered this proposal to amend this regulation after taking into consideration the Central Council of Homoeopathy submissions that bed requirement should be confined to 25 only with a rider that there should be one peripheral clinic for 10 admissions. Thus, a college having 50 admissions will be required to have a hospital of 25 beds and about 5 peripheral dispensaries which the college has to set up for community service.

4.4 The Committee recommends that the CCH should amend the regulations without any further delay and NIH take steps to establish the peripheral dispensaries at the earliest so that effective patient care can be provided.

#### V UNANI

5.1 Allocation for Unani has been increased from Rs. 10.50 crores on the plan side in BE 2000-2001 to Rs. 12 crores at RE stage. However, the allocation for 2001-2002 has been reduced to Rs. 10.84 crores. Commenting on this variation, the Department stated that the increase in Unani at RE stage was mainly on account of additional allocation for CCRUM for civil works in RRIUM, Hyderabad, RRIUM, Chennai and RRIUM, Jammu & Kashmir. The expenditure on Capital works is non-recurring and once the job is completed, additional funds are not required. Hence, the plan allocation for 2001-2002 has been kept at Rs. 10.84 crores.

5.2 The allocation for National Institute of Unani Medicine, Bangalore has been kept at Rs. 3.50 crores in BE 2000-2001, RE 2000-2001 and BE 2001-2002. The Committee was informed that a letter of award for construction of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the building of the Institute was issued in September 2000 and since then, the contractor has mobilized resources for construction work and has completed preliminary activities. The medicinal plant garden is also coming up and funds for this purpose have already been placed at the disposal of the Horticulture Department of the Govt. of Karnataka. The interim OPD alongwith allied facilities which will later form part of the main building has also been completed and the Health Minister has already approved starting of the OPD at the Institute which is likely to start very soon.

5.3 The Committee is happy to note that after several years of its conception the project has reached a conclusive stage. However, the Committee would like to emphasise that merely placing funds with the Department of Horticulture, Karnataka for medicinal plant garden will not suffice and feels that the Department should coordinate with that department to complete the project at the earliest. The Committee also hopes that the OPD in the Institute will start functioning without any further delay.

#### VI YOGA

6.1 The plan allocation for 'Yoga and Naturopathy' which was Rs. 6.20 crores in BE 2000-2001 got reduced to Rs.

3.60 crores at the RE stage. The allocation has been increased to Rs.5.99 crores in BE 2001-2002. Justifying the decrease at RE stage the Department stated that it is due to under utilization of funds allocated for the National Institute of Morarji Desai in Yoga.

6.2 The Plan allocation of Rs.3.50 crores was made for the Institute in 2000-2001 for meeting the cost towards procurement of land and construction of the building. The Department informed that negotiations were going on for acquiring land with the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Poverty Alleviation which could be finalized with the Ministry only in January, 2001 and a premium amount of Rs.41.00 lakhs has since been paid to them for transfer of two acres of land in the name of the Department near Gol Dakhana. After the legal transfer is made construction of building would start. As this process takes time the construction could not start in 2000-2001 and the plan allocation at RE stage was significantly reduced.

6.3 The BE allocation for 2001-2002 has been increased to Rs.5.99 crores, out of which, a provision of Rs.3.00 crores has been made for construction of building of MDNIY and necessary clearances for the project will be obtained in due course. In the meanwhile, plan for establishing a Yoga Centre at the place which will start functioning within a year or so has already been presented before the Health Minister and Urban Development Minister. The Department further informed that a small plot has been obtained at Ghaziabad and the Department plans to have a Yoga Centre which is now at a conceptual stage as it would be more relevant to public needs at a later date.

6.4 The Committee feels that all the clearances that are required for construction and starting the Yoga Centre at MDNIY, should be obtained at the earliest.

6.5 The Committee was informed that Ministry of HRD has approved setting up of Yoga Departments in 11 universities and five universities are already conducting a five and a half year degree course in Yoga. The Committee was further informed that yoga has been introduced in Delhi in the Central Schools and schools of the Delhi Government.

6.6 Welcoming this measure, the Committee feels that steps should be taken by the Department alongwith the Ministry of HRD to include Yoga as a part of a regular curriculum in all the schools all over the country.

## VII SIDDHA

7.1 The Department has informed that the State Govt. of Tamil Nadu has given 14 acres of land for the Institute and an OSD has also been appointed to look after it. The drawings are ready and the concept has to be agreed upon. The Committee was also given to understand that financial clearance for it would be obtained soon. A feeling has somehow developed that the Central Government should not fund autonomous institutions anymore and the States should take the responsibility of meeting the recurring cost at least to the extent of 20 percent.

7.2 The Committee is of the view that as far as the National Institutes are concerned, it is the primary responsibility of the Government of India and not that of State Government and the Committee strongly feels that the present approach needs to be changed.

7.3 The Committee had in one of its recommendations recommended last year that the Department should take necessary action to popularize the Siddha system in North India, as presently the system is concentrated in South India, particularly Tamil Nadu only. The Department has informed the Committee that the matter was taken up with the Director-General, Health Services, who has informed that at present there is one Siddha unit each at Delhi and Chennai and no proposal has been received from any of the CGHS unit to strengthen and popularize the existing Siddha unit in North India. The Committee expresses its dismay over the fact that Department has no policy regarding Siddha system of medicine. It does not also appear to have the will or initiative to popularize and strengthen the system in other parts of the country. The Committee, therefore, is of the considered view that the Department should have a clear policy on Siddha whether to confine the system in a limited area/state or to popularize it in the whole country. In case, it decides to spread the system throughout the country, the Committee would like to be informed about the Department's strategy in this regard.

## VIII NEW SCHEMES

8.1 The Committee observes that during the entire Ninth Plan period no new schemes have been introduced by the Department. Almost all the new schemes are still in formulation stage. No expenditure could be incurred on schemes indicated below as they are yet to be launched:-

Health for All through Preventive and Promotive Programme of ISMH (Provision being made since 1997-98)  
ISM Polyclinics with Regimental Therapy, Panchkarma, Yoga and Naturopathy (Provision being made since 1998-99)  
Opening of Speciality Clinics in Govt. Hospitals (Provision being made since 1998-99)  
Ayurveda Park/Panchkarma in Hotels (Provision made in 2000-2001)

8.2 The Committee also observes that items are included in the Budget without any initial preparation and the

details of the schemes are worked out later. The Committee is of the view that this process needs to be reversed. Budgetary allocation should be made only after a scheme is fully examined, finalised and approved.

## IX MEDICAL EDUCATION

9.1 At present, there are 311 Undergraduate and 47 Postgraduate ISM&H colleges in the country. However, standard of education in some of the institutions is far from satisfactory and they are nowhere near the norms fixed by Statutory Bodies. The Committee was informed that high priority was given to this area. The number of colleges assisted and budget provision made during the year has been increased. About 55 colleges were assisted all over the country particularly for teaching equipment, books, Journals and access to computers. The Department further released funds for teaching assistance, hospital services, patient services, and for the first time patient care in medical colleges was also assisted.

9.2 Regarding the recognition part and mushrooming growth of large number of colleges, the Department informed that the power for recognition to increase the capacity lies with the Central Council of Indian Medicines, and there has been a proliferation in the intake of colleges. The problem is more acute in the States of Karnataka and Maharashtra. To discuss this problem threadbare, the Department requested the CCIM to call a meeting of the Vice-Chancellors of the universities and representatives of State Govts. Even though the response was not overwhelming, the major States were represented and deficiencies in mushrooming of colleges were pointed out to them.

9.3 The Department also informed that in order to check the mushroom growth of colleges legislative changes are required and instead of establishing new colleges emphasis should be on establishing new centres of excellence.

9.4 The Committee feels that legislative changes, as required, may be made at the earliest to check the mushroom growth of colleges coming up without adequate infrastructure. The Committee also desires that whenever a centre of excellence is opened, it may be opened in an area where the level of acceptance of the system is high, so that effectiveness of the system could be popularized in a standardized manner.

9.5 The Committee was also informed that there is a growing feeling among the students that those who could not get seats in Allopathic Medical Colleges get relegated into Ayurvedic, Unani and other Colleges in the Common Entrance examination. The Committee was further informed that in view this scenario, the Department has plans to have a separate entrance examination for admission into Ayurvedic and Unani Colleges so that students who are really interested in this field could join. This issue has been thoroughly debated in the Central Council and the decision on it is likely to be taken soon.

9.6 The Committee wonders whether this could be achieved through the common entrance examination itself by making compulsory a fixed number of questions for students who seek admission to Ayurveda/Unani Colleges instead of having a separate entrance examination. The Committee would like this to be examined.

## X QUALITY CONTROL OF DRUGS

10.1 Laying down the pharmacopoeial standards and quality control of ISM&H drugs is one of the priority areas of the Department. The Committee was informed that the Pharmacopoeial Laboratories at Ghaziabad both for Homoeopathy and for Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha are working at a very low ebb for the last so many years. It was also informed that the number of tests they were conducting was so low that it is really questionable whether there is a need to have this kind of Institution, if at all any impact has to be made.

10.2 The Department further informed that the proposal to strengthen the two Laboratories is under way. EFC clearance for the project has since been obtained. The funds are available with the Department and the construction work for the building of PLIM and HPL, Ghaziabad has been entrusted to Ghaziabad Development Authority (GDA). The Department also informed that it had consulted CSIR, the Department of Biotechnology and the ICMR on the matter and the number of posts in laboratories is likely to go up. The Committee hopes that the entire process would be hastened up.

10.3 The Committee was informed that the Department plans to recognize Private laboratories for quality certification. Before any private lab is recognized, inspection by the Central Government and State Government officials will be made. Testing in these labs would be accorded high priority and a draft rule in this regard has already been notified which will soon become law for the private laboratories. The Committee while appreciating the steps taken by the Department feels that after the job of recognition of Private Laboratories is undertaken, some type of monitoring mechanism on them should also be evolved.

10.4 A scheme for assisting State Drug Testing Laboratories of ISM&H has been announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget speech for 2001-2002. The scheme is meant primarily for renovation and modernization of state laboratories of Indian Systems of Medicines and Drugs which would enable them to fulfil the statutory responsibility under the Drugs and Cosmetics, Act. Under the scheme devised, equipments would be supplied and funds for modernization of facilities would also be given apart from training for giving standard treatment to the patients.

Welcoming this initiative, the Committee hopes that this scheme would be launched at the earliest.

## XI NON-AVAILABILITY OF HERBS AND MEDICINAL PLANTS

11.1 The efficacy of most of the ISMH drugs is dependent upon the use of pure and genuine raw material obtained from medicinal plants. However, due to over exploitation, unscrupulous collection and denuding of forests, supplies have been dwindling. The Department informed the Committee that it has initiated various steps to enhance the supply of medicinal plants. A special scheme to provide assistance to research organisations for development of agro-techniques has been introduced and a component of R&D has also been included under the scheme to achieve better results. The Department further informed that National Board on Medicinal Plants as a statutory body has been set up under the Cabinet order on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2000. The Board has been constituted by official members and has been notified. Non-official members are in the process of being notified. The Committee was also informed that based on Cabinet order, 6 special committees for demand and supply of medicinal plants have been set up to look into the aspect of intellectual property, cultivation and conservation of medicinal plants and the committees have started functioning. About 6 to 8 Deptts. including ICAR, CSIR have been roped in to have a co-ordinated plan.

11.2 The Committee appreciates the steps taken and desires that regular monitoring of the Committees constituted should also be there to study their effectiveness. The Committee also reiterates its recommendation made last year that the study to conduct the collection of authentic data on the demand, consumption and availability of medicinal plants be entrusted to the National Board of Medicinal Plants.

## XII PUBLICITY

12.1 For this purpose, the Department took several steps during the year both within the country and outside. For popularizing the systems abroad, the Department participated for five months at Hannover in Exp-2000 by putting a stall and the response was overwhelming. Keen interest was shown in the areas of yoga and pulse diagnosis. The Department also informed that a conference of Ayurveda in New York was inaugurated by PM and six areas where ayurveda is extremely strong were presented before a mixed crowd of Americans and non-resident Indians. The industries in the field were also encouraged to display their products. The research publications, drug list and research done on plants were also displayed. The Department, however, informed that the difficulty there was that USA recognizes Ayurvedic items as food supplements only. Apart from the above measures, the Department informed that it presented its case before the House of Lords Sub-Committee on alternative and complementary systems of medicines because the Sub-Committee earlier concluded that Ayurveda and Unani lacked scientific evidence.

12.2 The Department also informed that it took several steps to popularise the Indian systems within the country. Health Melas were held at five places in the country, where medicines were given under the three systems and presentations were made on Yoga and natural food and diet therapy through Naturopathy. The basic idea of Health Melas was that the public should be given access to the highest quality of both primary health care as well as secondary and tertiary level care. The response to the health melas was reported to be encouraging.

12.3 The Committee appreciates the holding of Health Melas outside the country for popularizing the Indian systems of medicines as the people outside don't know much about them. But such melas in the country do not serve much useful purpose. The Committee is of the view that positive achievements made in all the systems of Indian medicine should be given wide publicity through print and electronic media so that people at large would come to know about them. The Committee observes that the Department has not taken any effective steps to remove the prejudices of the system. The Committee feels that this grey area should be included in the IEC component, which the Department prepares in future.

## XIII NORTH EASTERN STATES

13.1 The Department informed that as per the guidelines conveyed by the Planning Commission, 10% of the plan budget has been earmarked for the North Eastern States and Sikkim. Accordingly, a lump sum provision of Rs. 12.00 crores in 2001-2002 has been made for North Eastern States and Sikkim. The expenditure will be incurred by the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha, Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine and Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy on their research and survey units in the North East and Sikkim and on going schemes of the Department will be reckoned against this allocation.

13.2 The Committee was informed that there has been shortfall in the utilization of funds in the Northeast Region, due to bio-diversity of the region. Moreover, traditions of the people are different which have to be respected. The Committee was given to understand that the Department was going to request the Planning Commission to give funds to have a special scheme for the ISM&H in North East, which would be institution based system and Indira Gandhi National Institute at Shillong would be made the focal point for the purpose.



13.3 The Committee observes that against an allocation of Rs. 10.00 crores for NE region in 2000-2001 reduced to Rs. 8.53 crores at the RE stage, no expenditure has been incurred upto February, 2001. On the other hand, the Department proposes to request the Planning Commission to allocate funds for a special scheme for the ISM&H in North-east. The Committee feels that the Department should make all endeavour to first utilise the funds which are already available with it for this purpose instead of approaching the Planning Commission for more funds.

#### XIV INTRA MURAL AND EXTRA MURAL RESEARCH

14.1 The Committee was informed that in the area of intra-mural research the Council has been able to work in coordination with the Indian Council of Medical Research. An operational research study of using 11 ayurvedic medicines and approaches dealing with women's and children's problems would be started in the next three months. 10 blocks are being taken in the country in five States to work on ayurvedic medicines in specific areas like anemia, etc. and work on unani and homoeopathy will also be taken in due course. By these measures, the Department stated, the Council would be able to test the efficacy more than what has been done in the past in the case of Indian systems.

14.2 The other measure which the Department proposes to take not through Budgetary support, but through the support of World Health Organisation is identification of five areas in ayurveda like prostate, menopause, preventive cardiology, arthritis and Rasayan where ayurveda and unani are very strong, and where it could be subjected to clinical trials and testing the efficacy. The Department stated that at least in two areas the work will start soon.

14.3 The Committee was also informed that the research councils have been given direction that they must look for priority areas where ayurveda, unani, homoeopathy can work in tandem with allopathy.

14.4 As far as the extra-mural research was concerned, the Committee was informed that the scheme is being reworked as people were applying in areas for working in animals which even the ICMR does not require it now. The need of the hour is to identify some good institutions which could take up cases of ayurvedic, unani and homoeopathic medicines through pre-determined ones. A new scheme has been drawn up and applications would be invited by June, 2001.

14.5 The Committee hopes that the new scheme on extra-mural research work will start by June, 2001. However, the Committee feels that at the time of selection of institutions for research purposes, institutions which are already working in the area and well-established in Ayurveda may be identified and assisted so that better and fruitful results could be achieved.

#### XV PATENT CELL AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE DIGITAL LIBRARY (TKDL)

15.1 Patent Cell (ISM) was created in the Department on 22.4.97 to look after the work relating to :-

To keep track of patents being filed in India or other parts of the world with respect to Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani Drugs and Patent proprietary medicines.

To extend professional assistance to organizations and scientists in the ISMH Sector in connection with the filing of Patents by providing information contained in ancient texts.

15.2 The Department has informed that after observing the work of the Cell and after visiting the World Intellectual Property Organisation it was realized that there is not much scope for such a Cell. By establishing a Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL), the need of a legal expert will not be there. Whenever there is any controversy it can be effectively countered by effective use of knowledge and advanced technology. The Director, NISCOM was also of the view that after establishment of TKDL, the patent cell would become redundant because patents are valid only within a country and patents are generally published only after they are granted and not before. Moreover, the Patent Cell of the Department would not be able to access any information at the time of filing patents, and the cell would be useful only for filing of patents by Research Councils working under the Department.

15.3 The Department further informed that with the help of TKDL, the accessibility of information would become easier and nobody can claim to have innovated or discovered on 14 items mentioned in the TKDL. Ayurveda Experts would also be recruited for giving expertise in regard to plants and other things and this would also find place side by side in the 14 TKDL texts which would be completed within eight to ten months. Unani and Siddha experts would also be encouraged to do a similar exercise.

15.4 The Department also informed that the research councils have already documented 4,500 items of traditional knowledge of which people have been taking help since a very long time. One monograph of this knowledge has already been published.

The Committee observes that the Department has not been able to come to a conclusion whether a patent cell should exist or not after the establishment of TKDL. The Committee feels that the Department is dragging its feet on a very sensitive and important issue. The Committee would like that the matter should be examined afresh in consultation with the concerned Departments and an early decision may be taken in this regard. TKDL cannot be a substitute for patent cell. The Committee, therefore, feels that Patent Cell should also co-exist with TKDL.

**XVI GENERAL**

The Committee notes that a CGHS Allopathic unit is functioning at the Parliament House Annexe for quite a long time. Opening a unit in of ISMH alongside the CGHS Allopathic unit in was raised during last Parliament House Annexe was raised during last year before the Secretary. No action has been taken by the Department in this regard. The Committee, therefore, desires that the Department may explore that possibility of opening an ISMH unit at Parliament House Annexe within its resources at the earliest.

**OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS AT A GLANCE****BUDGETARY ALLOCATION**

The Committee hopes that the funds as earmarked for the specific activities mentioned above would be fully utilised. (Para 2.3)

The Committee observes that during the last three to four years the Department has been projecting high figures in the Budget Estimates for the schemes and subsequently it is drastically reduced at the RE stage and even that is not being released/utilised. The Committee would like to know the reasons for the same. The Committee also observes that funds for the schemes are sometimes released in the month of February or March to the regional Units/Institutes. The Committee wonders whether there is any special financial rule specifically for the Department which says that the funds are not lapsable. The Committee feels that either the allocations have to be utilized or they should be surrendered at the close of the financial year. The Committee would like to be enlightened on this aspect. (Para 2.4)

**AYURVEDA**

The above table clearly shows that even the allocated funds have not been released to the institutions. The Committee would like to be apprised of the reasons why the allocated amount could not be released especially in the case of NIA, Jaipur and CCRAS, New Delhi. (Para 3.2)

The Committee finds the situation very ironical. On the one hand, the Department says that more staff is required for NIA, Jaipur and steps are being taken to fill up the vacant posts. On the other hand, the CCIM has proposed reduced norms for teaching staff according to which the existing staff at NIA is sufficient. The Committee feels that this issue needs to be sorted out quickly and necessary action should be taken without further loss of time. The Committee, at the same time, is constrained to express its displeasure that the posts were allowed to remain vacant for such a long time as a result of which the posts lapsed. Such a situation could have been avoided if timely action to fill up the posts had been taken. (Para 3.5)

The Committee while appreciating the steps taken in this regard cautions the Department that merely receiving the prescribed Proforma from State Govts. would not suffice. The Committee also suggests that a monitoring cell for this purpose may be created under Advisor (Ayurveda) in the Department. (Para 3.8)

**HOMOEOPATHY**

The Committee recommends that the CCH should amend the regulations without any further delay and NIH take steps to establish the peripheral dispensaries at the earliest so that effective patient care can be provided. (Para 4.4)

**UNANI**

The Committee is happy to note that after several years of its conception the project has reached a conclusive stage. However, the Committee would like to emphasise that merely placing funds with the Department of Horticulture, Karnataka for medicinal plant garden will not suffice and feels that the Department should coordinate with that department to complete the project at the earliest. The Committee also hopes that the OPD in the Institute will start functioning without any further delay. (Para 5.3)

**YOGA**

The Committee feels that all the clearances that are required for construction and starting the Yoga Centre at MDNIY, should be obtained at the earliest. (Para 6.4)

Welcoming this measure, the Committee feels that steps should be taken by the Department alongwith the Ministry of HRD to include Yoga as a part of a regular curriculum in all the schools all over the country. (Para 6.6)

**SIDDHA**

The Committee is of the view that as far as the National Institutes are concerned, it is the primary responsibility of the Government of India and not that of State Government and the Committee strongly feels that the present approach needs to be changed. (Para 7.2)

The Committee expresses is dismay over the fact that Department has no policy regarding Siddha system of medicine. It does not also appear to have the will or initiative to popularize and strengthen the system in other parts of the country. The Committee, therefore, is of the considered view that the Department should have a clear policy on Siddha whether to confine the system in a limited area/state or to popularize it in the whole country. In case, it decides to

spread the system throughout the country, the Committee would like to be informed about the Department's strategy in this regard. (Para 7.3)

#### NEW SCHEMES

The Committee also observes that items are included in the Budget without any initial preparation and the details of the schemes are worked out later. The Committee is of the view that this process needs to be reversed. Budgetary allocation should be made only after a scheme is fully examined, finalised and approved. (Para 8.2)

#### MEDICAL EDUCATION

The Committee feels that legislative changes, as required, may be made at the earliest to check the mushroom growth of colleges coming up without adequate infrastructure. The Committee also desires that whenever a centre of excellence is opened, it may be opened in an area where the level of acceptance of the system is high, so that effectiveness of the system could be popularized in a standardized manner. (Para 9.4)

The Committee wonders whether this could be achieved through the common entrance examination itself by making compulsory a fixed number of questions for students who seek admission to Ayurveda/Unani Colleges instead of having a separate entrance examination. The Committee would like this to be examined. (Para 9.6)

#### QUALITY CONTROL OF DRUGS

The Committee hopes that the entire process would be hastened up. (Para 10.2)

The Committee while appreciating the steps taken by the Department feels that after the job of recognition of Private Laboratories is undertaken, some type of monitoring mechanism on them should also be evolved. (Para 10.3)

Welcoming this initiative, the Committee hopes that this scheme would be launched at the earliest. (Para 10.4)

#### NON-AVAILABILITY OF HERBS AND MEDICINAL PLANTS

The Committee appreciates the steps taken and desires that regular monitoring of the Committees constituted should also be there to study their effectiveness. The Committee also reiterates its recommendation made last year that the study to conduct the collection of authentic data on the demand, consumption and availability of medicinal plants be entrusted to the National Board of Medicinal Plants. (Para 11.2)

#### PUBLICITY

The Committee appreciates the holding of Health Melas outside the country for popularizing the Indian systems of medicines as the people outside don't know much about them. But such melas in the country do not serve much useful purpose. The Committee is of the view that positive achievements made in all the systems of Indian medicine should be given wide publicity through print and electronic media so that people at large would come to know about them. The Committee observes that the Department has not taken any effective steps to remove the prejudices of the system. The Committee feels that this grey area should be included in the IEC component, which the Department prepares in future. (Para 12.3)

#### NORTH EASTERN STATES

The Committee observes that against an allocation of Rs. 10.00 crores for NE region in 2000-2001 reduced to Rs. 8.53 crores at the RE stage, no expenditure has been incurred upto February, 2001. On the other hand, the Department proposes to request the Planning Commission to allocate funds for a special scheme for the ISM&H in North-east. The Committee feels that the Department should make all endeavour to first utilise the funds which are already available with it for this purpose instead of approaching the Planning Commission for more funds. (Para 13.3)

#### INTRA MURAL AND EXTRA MURAL RESEARCH

The Committee hopes that the new scheme on extra-mural research work will start by June, 2001. However, the Committee feels that at the time of selection of institutions for research purposes, institutions which are already working in the area and well-established in Ayurveda may be identified and assisted so that better and fruitful results could be achieved. (Para 14.5)

#### PATENT CELL AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE DIGITAL LIBRARY (TKDL)

The Committee observes that the Department has not been able to come to a conclusion whether a patent cell should exist or not after the establishment of TKDL. The Committee feels that the Department is dragging its feet on a very sensitive and important issue. The Committee would like that the matter should be examined afresh in consultation with the concerned Departments and an early decision may be taken in this regard. TKDL cannot be a substitute for patent cell. The Committee, therefore, feels that Patent Cell should also co-exist with TKDL. (Para 15.6)

#### GENERAL

The Committee notes that a CGHS Allopathic unit is functioning at the Parliament House Annexe for quite a long time. Opening a unit in of ISMH alongside the CGHS Allopathic unit in was raised during last Parliament House Annexe was raised during last year before the Secretary. No action has been taken by the Department in this regard.

The Committee, therefore, desires that the Department may explore that possibility of opening an ISMH unit at Parliament House Annexe within its resources at the earliest.

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**MINUTES**  
**II**  
**SECOND MEETING**

The Committee met at 10.00 A.M. on Saturday, the 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2001 in Committee Room `A`, Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Shri S.B. Chavan            ¾¾¾            *Chairman*

**MEMBERS**

**RAJYA SABHA**

Shri Mourice Kujur

Shri Rajnath Singh "Surya"

Shri Dina Nath Mishra

Prof. R.B.S. Varma

Shri Bratin Sengupta

Chaudhary Harmohan Singh Yadav

**LOK SABHA**

Shri Kirti Jha Azad

Shri Baliram Kashyap

Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan

Shrimati Shyama Singh

Dr. D.V.G. Shankar Rao

Shri Mohammed Anwarul Haque

Shri Vanlal Zawma

Dr. S. Venugopal

**WITNESSES**

I            Representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy)

Smt. Shailaja Chandra, Secretary

Shri L. Prasad, Joint Secretary

Shri Vijay Singh, Joint Secretary & F.A.

Dr. S.K. Sharma, Advisor (Ayurveda)

**SECRETARIAT**

Shri Satish Kumar, Additional Secretary

Smt. Vandana Garg, Director

Shri C.B. Rai, Under Secretary

Shri Ratan Kumar Sahoo, Research Officer

Shri P. Narayanan, Committee Officer

The Committee heard the oral evidence of the Secretary of the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy, in connection with the examination of Demands for Grants for the year 2001-2002. Members put queries which the Secretary and other representatives replied.

A verbatim record of the proceedings was kept.

The Committee adjourned at 12.10 P.M. to meet again at 10.00 A.M. on Monday, the 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2001

## VII SEVENTH MEETING

The Committee met at 10.00 A.M. on Wednesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2001 in Committee Room No. 139, First Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

### MEMBERS PRESENT

1. Shri S.B. Chavan  $\frac{3}{4}$  *Chairman*

### **RAJYA SABHA**

Shri Rajnath Singh "Surya"

Shri Dina Nath Mishra

Shri Bratin Sengupta

### **LOK SABHA**

Shri Ramakant Angle

Shri Kirti Jha Azad

Shri Ramanand Singh

Shri Dileep Sanghani

Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan

Shri G. S. Baswaraj

Shrimati Shyama Singh

Shri Kantilal Bhuriya

Shri Samik Lahiri

Shri Davendra Singh Yadav

Shri Shivaji Mane

Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul

Shri Trilochan Kanungo

Shri Mohammed Anwarul Haque

Dr. S. Venugopal

### SECRETARIAT

Smt. Vandana Garg, Director

Shri C.B. Rai, Under Secretary

Shri Ratan Kumar Sahoo, Research Officer

Shri P. Narayanan, Committee Officer

The Committee considered the Draft Reports on Demands for Grants for 2001-2002 of the Departments of X X X, Health, Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy and X X X. The Committee, after some discussion, adopted the Reports with certain modifications.

The Committee adjourned at 12.20 P.M. to meet again at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, the 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2001.

XXX Relate to other matters.

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