

**Government of India
Ministry of AYUSH**

AYUSH Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated the 7th May 2021

To

Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary AYUSH /Health
All States/UTs

Subject: Augmenting AYUSH Human resources for COVID – 19 – regarding.

Madam/Sir,

In the current scenario where the public health systems require augmentation due to surge in COVID-19 cases, the different systems of healthcare have to pool their resources to fight the corona virus. Keeping this in mind, the State/UTs are being advised to utilize their AYUSH manpower in view of the need for increasing the availability of trained human resources to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic situation. The following guidelines are being issued in this regard:

I - FACILITATION/EXTENSION

1. Considering the current situation in the wake of resurgence of COVID – 19, the State/UT Governments are advised to reach out to all qualified AYUSH practitioners and facilitate them to join the Covid – 19 workforces in this hour of need. The services of these AYUSH doctors can be utilized in the management of COVID – 19 at appropriate levels. The deployment of AYUSH physicians, Post Graduate students and interns in clinical set ups for Covid management may be done under the supervision of medical doctors / specialists. Necessary prescriptions may be issued by medical doctors / specialists and clinical care to the patients will be provided by AYUSH doctors under supervision as mentioned as a part of the treating team. This mechanism will augment the available human resources for Covid management.

2. AYUSH doctors, PG Students and interns may be deployed to manage e-Sanjivini digital platform (including local languages), where they will be able to guide people on AYUSH protocol for prevention, treatment and post covid rehabilitation from Covid. They will maintain proper records and will connect to Allopathic/AYUSH hospitals should the cases demand referrals.
3. With deployment of different levels of AYUSH human resources, mobilization of AYUSH facilities to offer services as per approved protocol (<https://main.AYUSH.gov.in/event/national-clinical-management-protocol-based-ayurveda-and-yoga-management-covid-19>) can be immediately possible. Furthermore, the AYUSH facilities may also be used for Post Covid Care and Rehabilitation where visiting/on-call Allopathic doctors may provide post-discharge continuing treatment as required in these facilities.
4. Ministry of AYUSH advises the States/UTs to offer AYUSH infrastructure (hospitals / facilities / centres / clinics etc.) for re-purposing into COVID Care centres/hospitals (along with nurse and other staff) in an effort to enhance health system capacity to face the ongoing wave. In this regard, information on AYUSH hospitals (50000+ beds, hospitals of 750+ AYUSH colleges, 86 clinical facilities of National Institutes and Research Councils under Ministry of AYUSH) as COVID appropriate facilities will be provided by MoA through a national portal.
5. The State/UT Governments may deploy AYUSH Interns also in Covid Management duties under the supervision of their faculty. They may be deployed at Isolation and Quarantine facilities being managed by State Governments, Local bodies, NGO's and private sector.
6. The services of Final Year AYUSH students can be utilized for providing services like outreach activities, screening of suspected COVID -19 cases, testing and counselling after due training/ orientation by and supervision of Faculty. They may also be engaged to provide tele-counselling for home-cared cases as per national guidelines, as well as provide information on vaccination, covid appropriate behaviour, answering FAQs etc. through 24x7 helplines.
7. The services of Final Year PG students may be utilised until fresh batches join. The All-India AYUSH PG Entrance has been postponed by National Testing Agency and intimation of date of examination after 31st August 2021 will be given by National Testing Agency at least one month in

advance.

8. Qualified Staff Nurses from the AYUSH side may be utilized in COVID - 19 nursing duties at AYUSH based Covid facilities within infrastructure of AYUSH as mentioned above. They may be deployed in other Covid hospitals also if required under the supervision of medical doctors. Other nurses deployed by the AYUSH departments/colleges/institutions may be deployed at Covid facilities/hospitals under the State health and medical college departments.
9. Ministry of AYUSH, in consultation with states, will coordinate further interactive training of AYUSH human resources as and when required for the suggested roles and responsibilities.
10. The additional human resources thus mobilized may be used only in facilities managing COVID- 19 cases or for Post COVID Management and Rehabilitation.

II – HONORARIUM/ RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

1. The above-mentioned guidelines aim to augment human resources available for responding to Covid-19 pandemic and can be fully availed by public and private institutions engaged in the effort. State Governments can make available additional AYUSH professionals engaged through this process to private COVID-19 hospitals as well in surge areas.
2. A suitable honorarium for distinguished COVID -19 Service may be considered by the States/UTs for the specific assignment.
3. The financial incentives/ remuneration shall be available only for those who work for at least 100 days for COVID-19 care.
4. All such professionals who complete a minimum 100 days of COVID -19 duty will be given the Prime Minister's Distinguished COVID-19 National Service Samman from the Government of India.
5. The AYUSH doctors, Post Graduate students, Interns, final year students and other human resource sought to be engaged in COVID related work will need to be suitably vaccinated.
6. All such AYUSH professionals thus engaged will have to be covered under the Insurance scheme of Government for health workers engaged in fighting COVID 19.
7. The Central Government recommends to State/UT Governments to consider giving preference in regular Government appointments of AYUSH professionals through the respective Public Service Commission / other recruitment bodies and contractual appointments for such AYUSH Professionals who complete a minimum of 100 days of COVID -19 related duty.

8. The State / UT Governments may also expeditiously fill vacant posts of AYUSH doctors, nurses, other supportive staff in Health and Medical departments through accelerated processes as soon as possible and positively within 45 days through contractual appointments.

This has the approval of competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

(Shiela Tirkey)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy for necessary action to:

1. Chairperson, BoG, CCIM, New Delhi.
2. Chairperson, BoG, CCH, New Delhi

Copy for information:

3. CEO, Health, Niti Aayog.
4. The Director, PMO, New Delhi.
5. PS to Hon'ble MoS (IC), Ministry of AYUSH
6. PPS to Secretary (AYUSH)/PPS to SS/PPS JS (PNRK)