

# **Ayush Wellness Centres under National Ayush Mission**

# Why in News

Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved the **inclusion of AYUSH** <u>Health and Wellness Centres</u> (AYUSH HWCs) in the **National AYUSH Mission** (NAM).

AYUSH HWC is a component of the <u>Ayushman Bharat</u>.

# **Background**

- The National Health Policy 2017 advocated for mainstreaming the potential of <u>AYUSH</u> systems (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-rigpa and Homoeopathy) within a pluralistic system of integrative healthcare.
- In 2018, the Government of India decided that **1.5 lakh health & wellness Centres** would be created by transforming existing sub-health centres and primary health centres **to deliver** comprehensive primary health care.
- So, it was decided that the Ministry of AYUSH would operationalize 10% of the total sub-health centres as HWCs under Ayushman Bharat.

# **Key Points**

- Cost and time:
  - Expenditure- ₹3399.35 Crore (with a ratio of almost 2:1 between the centre and the states respectively)
  - Time- Within a period of five years from 2019-20 to 2023-24.
- AYUSH HWCs operating under NAM will have the following objectives:
  - To establish a holistic wellness model based on AYUSH principles and practices focusing on preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative healthcare by integration with the existing public health care system.
  - To **provide informed choice** to the public in need, by making the AYUSH services available.
  - To spread community awareness about lifestyle, yoga, medicinal plants and provision of medicines for selected conditions as per strength of AYUSH systems.
- After consulting with the States/UTs, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and other ministries involved, the Ministry of AYUSH has proposed two models for operationalization of AYUSH HWCs:
  - Upgradation of existing AYUSH dispensaries.
  - Upgradation of existing Sub Health Centres (SHCs).
- Benefits:
  - Enhanced accessibility to achieve universal health coverage for affordable treatment.
  - **Reduced burden** on secondary and tertiary health care facilities.
  - Reduced out of pocket expenditure due to self-care model.
  - Integration of AYUSH in implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3

(Good Health and Well-being), as mandated by the NITI Aayog.

Validated holistic wellness model in target areas.

### National Health Policy, 2017

- It seeks to reach everyone in a comprehensive integrated way to move towards wellness.
- It aims at achieving universal health coverage and delivering quality health care services to all at affordable cost.

#### **National AYUSH Mission**

- It was launched by the Department of AYUSH under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, during the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan for implementation through States/UTs.
- Objectives:
  - To promote AYUSH medical systems through cost effective AYUSH services.
  - To **strengthen** the educational systems.
  - To facilitate the enforcement of quality control of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU&H) drugs and sustainable availability of the raw-materials needed in them.

ne Vision

- It envisages **flexibility of implementation** of the programmes which will lead to substantial participation of the State Governments/UT.
- Elements of the National AYUSH Mission:
  - Obligatory Components
    - AYUSH Educational Institutions.
    - AYUSH Services.
    - Medicinal Plants Quality Control of ASU&H Drugs.
  - Flexible Components
    - AYUSH Wellness Centres comprising Yoga and Naturopathy.
    - Tele-medicine.

**Source: PIB** 

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