

NOTICE

Subject : Mechanism for consideration of proposals for recognition to new / alternative systems of medicine

This is to state, for information of all concerned, that the Department of Health Research, in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, has been receiving, from time to time, miscellaneous references / representations from various individuals / bodies for according recognition to alternative systems of medicine.

2. In this connection, it may be stated that the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of AYUSH are regulating different matters relating to various systems of medicine in the country. At present, the modern system of medicine is regulated through the Indian Medical Council Act 1956; the Homoeopathic System of Medicine is regulated through Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 and the four Indian Systems of Medicine, namely Ayurveda, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Unani, are regulated through the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970. Yoga and Naturopathy are also systems recognized under the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India. However, there is no legal framework for recognizing and regulating any other new (i.e., alternative) systems of medicine.

3. The question of bringing in a separate Central legislation to facilitate grant of recognition to new, i.e., alternative systems of medicine, has been under consideration of the Union Government for quite sometime. After comprehensive consideration of the matter in the Government, it has now been decided to put in place a mechanism, in which, in lieu of a Central legislation, an Inter-Departmental Committee, comprising representatives from Central and State Governments, some regulatory bodies and persons of repute from the field of health sciences, will analyse and examine proposals seeking recognition to alternative systems of medicine, in order to establish the viability, or otherwise, of such systems for their safe adoption in the national healthcare system. This Inter-Departmental Committee will examine those proposals for recognition of systems of medicine, concept of which is quite independent of the existing recognised systems of medicine, namely, Allopathy system and AYUSH system. Recommendations that may be made by such committee would, thereafter, be considered by the Central Government in order to decide if such systems are viable and safe, and can be suitably notified by way of executive orders.

4. The terms of reference and scope of work for the Committee will be as under.

(a) To invite via website, proposals / suggestions from various stakeholders / public / supporters / promoters of alternative systems of medicine, seeking recognition to any new system(s) of medicine, also calling for from them relevant documents / literature with respect to origin and history of such systems, including stages of its development and research works on it, etc., indicating the clinical applicability, efficacy and, above all, safety of such alternative systems, list of institutions providing teaching / trainings on that system / mode of therapy, curriculum, lists of experts, published documents available in public domain, etc.

(b) To analyse and examine each such application / proposal, and take a decision in respect to viability of notifying the alternative system; and

(c) To make recommendations to the Central Government for inclusion of any such system(s) in the list of viable systems of alternative medicine. While doing so, the Committee would also suggest suitable course / curriculum / regulatory body for each such system.

5. There will be pooling of proposals, thus received, for every quarter (ending 31st March, 30th June, 30th September, 31st December) for processing.

6. In view of the above, any person or body may forward proposals seeking recognition to new, i.e., alternative systems of medicine, for examination by the said Inter-Departmental Committee. While doing so, they must invariably ensure the following requirements:

(a) Proposal should be quite detailed and complete in all respects in terms of para- 4(a) above.

(b) Two hard copies of the proposal may be forwarded to the Department of Health Research at the address, given below.

(c) In addition, soft copy of 6(b) above must invariably be forwarded simultaneously or immediately thereafter.

(d) It may be noted that the proposal will not be entertained in case both 6(b) & 6(c) above are not forwarded.

(e) The proposals thus received, and which are complete in all respects, will be placed before the said committee for their consideration in due course of time, in the manner indicated at para-5 above.

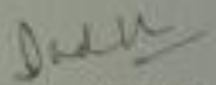
(f) The sender (s) of the proposal(s) are likely to be invited to the meeting of the committee, as and when the committee sits, to present their proposal before the committee. They may also be required to make power-point presentation and / or any other demonstration before the committee, as may be required by the Committee. This will be intimated to the senders at the appropriate time. Further, they

will be expected to provide all information / material to the committee, as may be asked for by the committee. In addition, in case there is more than one body / person forwarding proposals for the same system, they may be advised to interact with each other and send one consolidated proposal to facilitate administrative convenience and smooth processing of the proposal. In such a situation, representatives of all such bodies / persons may be invited to the meeting of the committee to plead their case.

- (g) The proposals should be accompanied with full postal address (including Pin Code Number) and other contact details (telephone / mobile number, e-mail ID, etc.) of the sender(s).
- (h) No canvassing in favour of their proposal(s) should be resorted to outside the scope of the meeting of the committee. They will get ample opportunity to justify their case before the committee, when they are invited to attend the meeting.
- (i) Normally, no representation against the decision of the Committee as well as that of the Government, regarding viability or otherwise of the proposal, will be entertained.

7. Proposal may be forwarded to the following address :

Shri Om Parkash,
Under Secretary,
Department of Health Research,
IRCS Building, Second Floor,
1, Red Cross Road,
New Delhi-110001.
E-mail ID : om.prakash38@nic.in



(Indira Sharma)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Tel. No. 011-23738087

To

All stakeholders / public at large