

International Cooperation achievements

2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15

For global promotion/ propagation of the AYUSH systems of medicine, since past few year the Department, has adopted strategy for signing of Country to Country MoU on cooperation in Traditional Medicine; setting up of AYUSH Academic chairs in Foreign Universities / Institutes and opening of AYUSH Information Cell in the premises of the India Missions / ICCR Cultural Centre to disseminate authentic information about AYUSH. The major achievements under International Cooperation are as follows:

2012-13

- **“International Conference on Traditional Medicine for South – East Asian Countries”** was organized by the Department of AYUSH in collaboration with the WHO Regional office for South – East Asia during 12-14 February, 2013. The Conference has successfully positioned India Globally in the field of Traditional Medicine. Apart from the representatives from 11 South East Asian Countries, delegates from Brazil, China, Cambodia, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mali, Mongolia, UK and USA also participated in the Conference.
- Hon'ble Health Ministers of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Minister of Indigenous medicine Sri Lanka, Vice Minister of Health-Timor Leste and the representative of DPR Korea, Indonesia, Myanmar, Maldives, and Thailand had attended the conference and unanimously adopted **“The Delhi Declaration on Traditional Medicine for the South – East Asian Countries”** during the conference on 13-2-2013.
- Two separate letters of intent have been signed on 15.10.2012 with the Government of Mexico to facilitate signing of an MoU at a future date strengthen, Promote and develop cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicines.
- Information Cells for disseminating authentic information of AYUSH were set up at Trinidad and Tobago, Mexico.

- Cabinet approved signing of an **MoU** on Cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine with Government of **Nepal** on 23.08.2012. The MoU yet to be signed.

2013-14

- A Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Human Resources of Hungary and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Republic of India on Cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine was signed on 17.10.2013. The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Smt. Santosh Chowdhary, Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare, Government of India and Mr. Zoltan Balog, Minister of Human Resources of Hungary at New Delhi in the presence of the Prime Ministers of both the countries. The main objective of the MoU is to strengthen, promote and develop co-operation in the field of traditional systems of medicine between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. The MoU encourages and promotes co-operation to enhance the use of traditional systems of medicine; promote mutual exchange of regulatory information on operational licensing to practice traditional medicine and on marketing authorisation of medicines in both countries; promote the exchange of experts for training of practitioners, paramedics, scientists, teaching professionals and students in traditional medicine etc. The signing of the MoU will give boost to bilateral co-operation between the two countries in the areas of traditional medicine.
- The "Delhi Declaration on Traditional Medicine for the South-East Asian Countries" was unanimously adopted by the Hon'ble Health Ministers of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Minister of Indigenous Medicine of Sri Lanka, Vice Minister of Timor Leste and representatives of DPR Korea, Indonesia, Myanmar, Maldives and Thailand during the 'International Conference on Traditional Medicine for South-East Asian Countries' held in New Delhi during 12-14 February, 2014. After determined efforts of the Department of AYUSH, as a follow up, the matter was taken for the first time in the **Sixty-sixth session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia on 13 September, 2013**. All the Member States recognized the importance of the 'Delhi Declaration on Traditional Medicine for the South-

East Asian Countries' and the follow up on the Declaration was encouraged by all Member States.

- AYUSH Information Cells were setup at Cuba, Hungary, Indonesia (Jakarta & Bali), Mauritius and Russia to disseminate authentic information on AYUSH systems of medicine in these countries.
- The 2nd Bilateral Meeting was organized by the Ministry of Health, Government of Malaysia on 26th March, 2014 under the provisions of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between India and Malaysia on 'Cooperation in the field of Traditional Medicine'. The Indian Side led by the Secretary-AYUSH. The Malaysian side was led by Director General of Health, Ministry of Health. The two delegations deliberated various issues extensively and took stock of progress made in the cooperation between two countries. The Malaysian side appreciated the growth of AYUSH Systems of Medicine in India.

2014-15

- A high level delegation led by His Excellency Dr Harsh Vardhan, Honorable Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Govt of India participated in Ministerial Round Table on Traditional medicine being held as a side event on 9th September, 2014 during Thirty Second meeting of the Ministers of Health of the Countries of South East Asia Region and Sixty-seventh Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South East Asia region at Dhaka, Bangladesh from 9-12 September, 2014. Hon'ble Minister moderated the Ministerial Round Table.
- During the deliberations Hon'ble Minister, in due appreciation of the areas of cooperation of Delhi Declaration, designated its three apex National Institutes, viz., National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur; National Institute of Unani Medicine, Bangalore and National institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata as Regional Centres, as envisaged in item nos. VI and VIII of areas of cooperation in the Delhi Declaration. India had also earmarked 20 seats in undergraduates (one seat each in Ayurveda and Homoeopathy for each SEA country), 7 for MD and 2 for PhD courses for South - East Asian countries under AYUSH Scholarship scheme in these premier National Institutes. Government of India would provide not only seats but also full

tuition fee and financial support including living expenses, hostel, airfare, contingent expenditure, etc., to the students nominated by the Government of South-East Asian countries. In addition, India offered country specific tailor-made courses under WHO fellowship programmes as and when required by WHO. Moreover, short courses, as required by any country, would also be offered free of cost at these National Institutes.

- For Agenda item 8.3 on Traditional Medicine, Sh. Nilanjan Sanyal, Secretary Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt of India expressed his thanks to WHO South-East Asia Regional Office for bringing out the related document which rightly recognized the Delhi Declaration. He informed that Govt of India is whole heartedly committed for the implementation of the Delhi Declaration in letter and spirit. The major achievement was adoption of the resolution of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia SEA/RC67/R3 on "TRADITIONAL MEDICINE: DELHI DECLARATION"
<http://www.searo.who.int/mediacentre/events/governance/rc/67/sea-rc67-r3.pdf?ua=1>). This resolution was proposed by D/o AYUSH, Govt. of India and adopted by the whole South-East Asia region.
- **MoU on Traditional Medicine:** An Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh was signed during the 9th September, 2014 during Thirty Second meeting of the Ministers of Health of the Countries of South East Asia Region.
- The **World Ayurveda Congress (WAC)** was organized by the Department of AYUSH in collaboration with World Ayurveda Foundation and Govt of NCT, Delhi held from 7-9 November, 2014 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The Congress was attended by official representatives of 11 countries including Ministers from 4 countries. Health Ministers from 10 States, Ambassadors/ High Commissioners, Members of Parliament, MLA from Delhi, Secretaries and other officials from other Ministries/ Departments, Councilors of local bodies, more than 225 invited speakers and experts of Ayurveda and 3580 delegates including 120 foreign delegates from 21 countries participated in the WAC. During the Congress 5 Plenary, 25 Technical sessions were held in which 259 papers were presented. Apart from this, 259 posters and 3 in-

conference symposia were also conducted. The International Delegate Assembly held on 8th November, 2014 parallel to the Congress in which 20 foreign delegates presented their views and shared their experiences in Ayurveda from respective countries. A seminar on Medicinal Plants was also organized by the National Medicine Plants Board (NMPB) on 8-9 November, 2014.
