SECTION 3: MEDICAL MANPOWER

Registration of practitioners under Indian system of Medicine and Homoeopathy, who possess recognized medical qualifications as per Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 is being done by State Boards/Councils. These State Boards/Councils constituted by the State Governments are maintaining State Register of AYUSH registered practitioners. Central Register of AYUSH practitioners are also maintained by the regulatory bodies, Central Council of Indian Medicine and Central Council of Homoeopathy. Central Registers is being updated from time to time from State Registers.

This section provides an overall position of number of registered practitioners under each system of AYUSH and availability of AYUSH practitioners/ doctors to the populace, along with time-series analysis.

**AYUSH doctors in India:**

As on 1.1.2014, there were 736538 registered AYUSH doctors/practitioners in India. Out of these 736538 registered AYUSH practitioners, 399400 (54.2%) belong to Ayurveda, while 279518 (38.0%) and 47683 (6.5%) belong to, Homoeopathy & Unani Systems respectively. Only 8173 (1.1%) and 1764 (0.2%) doctors belong to Siddha and Naturopathy Systems respectively.

Significant variation has been observed in distribution of AYUSH doctors between States. About (505534 registered practitioners) 68.6% of the total AYUSH doctors had been registered in the states of Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka only, while only (3843 registered practitioners) less than 1% (0.005%) of AYUSH doctors were registered in the States/UTs of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, and Chandigarh. No AYUSH doctor had been registered in states of Sikkim and the union territories of A&N Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep and Puducherry.

**Average annual growth rate of AYUSH doctors in India:**

As on 1.1.2007, there were 725568 registered AYUSH doctors/practitioners in India. However it has declined up to 720937 registered AYUSH doctors/practitioners in 2012 and it has gone up to 736538 registered practitioners in the year 2014. The average annual growth rate of AYUSH doctors has
declined from 1.1% in tenth plan to -1.1% in eleventh plan. The main reason for decline the growth rate is negative due to some of the States/Councils has mentioned that there is no separate State boards/councils of Indian Medicine exists in their States but the practitioners registered of any other states are permitted to practice the respective system in their States. However, the number of institutional qualified (IQ) has increased from 335007 to 511341 from the year 2011 to 2014. The main reason is that the number of NIQ practitioners has gone down and the number of IQ practitioners has gone up.

**Availability of AYUSH doctors:**

As on 1.1.2014, the highest percentage of registration of AYUSH doctors/practitioners has reported in Maharashtra (18.4%) followed by Bihar (18.2%) and Uttar Pradesh (12.2%). About more than 50% of registration of AYUSH doctors/ practitioners has reported in the combination of four major states Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. The states Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have reported more than 4% and less than 7% registration of AYUSH doctors/practitioners. However, some of the states like Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Odisha and Delhi have reported less than 4% of registration of AYUSH doctors/practitioners.

**State wise AYUSH doctors per crore populations:**

As on 1.1.2014, about 5810 AYUSH doctors per crore populations were available in India. However, there was significant inter-state variation in the strength of AYUSH doctors. In Bihar, Maharashtra and Nagaland, there were 12129, 11550 and 10536 AYUSH doctors per crore population respectively, whereas, in Kerala, 9940 AYUSH doctors were serving one crore population. States having more than 5000 but less than 10000 AYUSH doctors per crore populations were Delhi (5680), Goa (7689), Gujarat (6704), Himachal Pradesh (8391), Karnataka (6497) and...
Madhya Pradesh (8168). States having less than 1000 AYUSH doctors per crore populations were Assam (360), Meghalaya (932), Mizoram (311) and Tripura (616). However, no AYUSH practitioner had been reported to be registered in the states of Sikkim, A&N Island, Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep and Puducherry.

**Trend in availability of AYUSH doctors per crore population:**

Significant variation in the availability of AYUSH doctors per crore population have been observed since 1980. On an aggregate, AYUSH doctors serving per crore population had varied from 5582 to 5810 during the period 1980-2014. From 5655 doctors per crore populations in 1982, it dropped to 5442 in 1983, and then gradually increased to 6528 in 1992, again declining marginally to 6470 in 1993. There was a declining trend further, culminating in 6173 AYUSH doctors per crore population in 1999. However, a substantial growth of about 10% was registered next year and reached 6774 AYUSH Doctors in 2000. Beyond that the number of AYUSH doctors had declined to 6445 per crore populations in 2007. The availability of AYUSH doctors had improved marginally to 6611 per crore populations in 2008 and to 6733 in 2009. Further, it dropped to 5884 doctors per crore population in 2011 and 5502 doctors per crore population in 2013 and 5810 doctors per crore population in 2014 due to reduction of NIQ.

**Growth in availability of AYUSH doctors per crore population:**

During 1980-2014, an average annual growth rate of 2.0% had been observed in number of AYUSH doctors. During the same period, an average annual growth rate of 1.8%, 1.7% and 2.9% in the strength of the doctors of Ayurveda, Unani and Homoeopathy respectively. The maximum growth rate of 9.9% had been recorded in Naturopathy during 1998-2014.

Growth rate of Ayurveda, Homoeopathy and others doctors per crore population has been declining since 2002. The growth rate of Ayurveda doctors per crore
population has slightly increased from 4028 doctors in 2008 to 4159 in year 2009 and after that it has been declining and reached 3151 doctors in 2014. However, the growth rate of Homoeopathy has slightly increased from 1935 doctors per crore population in 2007 to 2095 doctors in 2008 with annual growth rate is 9.8% and also reached to 2205 doctors per crore population in the year 2014.

Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy became a separate Department during the Eighth Plan. From Eighth Plan onward, population had grown annually at the rate of 1.8% however; the number of doctors had also grown annually by 1.2%. Annual growth rates of 0.6%, 0.9% and -1.8% in the strength of doctors of Ayurveda, Unani and siddha respectively had been registered during 1992-2014. the main reason may be stated by the state boards/councils that there is no separate boards/councils of Indian medicine exists in their states but the practitioners registered of any other states are permitted to practice the respective system in their states. An annual growth rate of 9.9% in the strength of Naturopathy doctors had been registered during 1998-2014, whereas an annual growth rate of 2.9% in the strength of Homoeopathy doctors had been recorded during 1998-2014. The negative Growth rate to AYUSH doctors during the year 2014 due to rapid reduction of Unani NIQ Doctors.

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