

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN HOMOEOPATHY

Sub: Visit report to Accra, Ghana on deployment of Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary, RO (H) and Dr. Divya Taneja, RO (H), CCRH

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) organizes International Yoga Day celebrations with the Indian Embassies and High Commissions all over the world. Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary (vide letter no. F.ICC/631/2017 dated 2nd June 2017 from ICCR) and Dr. Divya Taneja (vide letter no. F.ICC/IDY/2017 dated 7th June 2017 from ICCR), both Research Officers (Homoeopathy), Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) under Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India were deployed to Accra, Ghana to participate as Homoeopathy experts in the International Yoga Day 2017 celebrations by the Indian High Commission, Ghana. This programme was organized to bring about sensitization about Indian systems of medicine and homoeopathy in Ghana to the various stake holders including health policy makers, educationists, practitioners and students.

PERIOD OF VISIT:

- Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary: 2nd July 2017-12th July 2017
- Dr. Divya Taneja: 9th July 2017-15th July 2017

OBJECTIVES OF THE VISIT

- Sensitization of policy makers about AYUSH systems in India including homoeopathy
- Meeting with academicians about AYUSH educational set up in India
- Training of students about homoeopathy
- Sensitization and interaction with local experts and general public about AYUSH systems in India

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

A. OFFICIAL MEETINGS

I. Meeting with Hon'ble Akosua Frema Osei-Opare, Chief of Staff, Ghana and Hon'ble Kwaku Agyeman-Manu, Minister of Health, Ghana - 10th July 2017

Hon'ble Akosua Frema Osei-Opare, Chief of Staff, Ghana called a meeting in her office on 10th July 2017. Hon'ble Kwaku Agyeman-Manu, Minister of Health, Ghana and Dr. Yirea Kyi, Director Traditional & Complementary Medicine, Ministry of Health were also present in the meeting. The meeting was attended by Dr. Divya Taneja & Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary; Mr Mahesh Chand, Second Secretary, India High Commission; Dr. Michael Kojo Kyeremateng, President

C4C Group of Companies, Ghana & Mr. Matthew, Vice-president, C4C Group of Companies. After introduction of the members of the meeting, Dr. Divya Taneja gave a brief introduction about AYUSH systems in India. Focused discussion was held on Homoeopathy and its present status and infrastructure in India. This was followed by a discussion on the difference between Homeopathy and herbal medicine. Dr. Michael Kojo Kyeremateng detailed the status of Homoeopathy in Ghana and his efforts to propagate homoeopathy for the benefit of public. Dr. Yirea Kyi informed that Homoeopathy is new to Ghana and needs to develop its patient pool and evidence base. A pilot project on integrating herbal medicine has been undertaken in the country at 19 clinics. The Hon'ble Chief of Staff was of the opinion that the law in Ghana does not stop practice of homoeopathy and thus the homoeopathic physicians can continue to practice. With a gradual development of patient base and demand for the science, regulations can come up over a period of time. She also suggested that the FDA in Ghana needs to have broader view, as Homoeopathy is a new approach to manage patients as a part of health care in Ghana. Change can come gradually but with conviction. The Hon'ble Minister of Health was of the opinion that introduction of Homoeopathy into main stream medical system can come only on a specific strategy devised with medical authorities. In the end, Hon'ble Chief of Staff emphasized upon opening up to new knowledge and conveyed that there should not be any impediment to development of Homoeopathy in Ghana.

II. Meeting with Board of Directors of National Board of Professional and Technical Examinations, Ghana – 11th July 2017

Meeting with Board of Directors, NABPTEX was attended by Dr. Divya Taneja, Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary, Dr. Michael Kojo Kyeremateng, Ms. Emma Amankwah Afrifa and Mr. Matthew. The Board was apprised about Homoeopathy and education system in India by Dr. Divya Taneja and Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary. The Board apprised about the education system, program regulations and accreditation of university and colleges in Ghana. The Board was open to the idea of imparting basic training in Homoeopathy in a professional way. The colleges aiming to deliver courses on Homoeopathy would need to go through the same process of affiliation, approval of syllabus and examination modality as any other professional course.





Broadly, the process involves registration of the institution, affiliation by NABPTEX, under mentorship of NABPTEX maintenance of standards of quality education, availability of necessary infrastructure and equipment, approval of syllabus / curriculum and supervision of examination. The Board suggested Dr. Kyeremateng to submit his proposal to the NABPTEX for consideration for developing homoeopathy education in the country.

III. Meeting with Hon'ble Sh. Birender Singh Yadav, High Commissioner of India to Ghana– 5th & 11th July 2017

A courtesy visit to the Hon'ble High Commissioner of Indian High Commission was made by Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary on 5th July 2017. Discussions were held about AYUSH system of medicine, works of Ministry of AYUSH & CCRH and the scheduled programme during the visit.



Meeting the Hon'ble High Commissioner, India High Commission, Ghana

In the meeting with both the experts Dr. Divya Taneja and Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary on 11th July 2017 discussions were held about the activities undertaken, the response & outcome of the programme so far. Further possibilities for propagation of AYUSH systems including Homoeopathy in Ghana was also discussed.

B. MEDIA BREIFING ABOUT THE VISIT OF EXPERTS TO GHANA

Press meet – 06th July 2017

A press meet was organized by the Indian High Commission, inviting local media from Ghana. The meet was presided by Sh. Birender Singh Yadav, Honorable High Commissioner of India and attended by Mr. Pradeep Gupta, First Secretary and Mr. Mahesh Chand, Second Secretary, Indian High Commission; Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary, Research Officer (H), CCRH and Dr. Michael Kojo Kyeremateng, President of the C4C Group of Companies and National Chairman for the Alternative Medical Association of Ghana. Honorable High Commissioner of India apprised the media about the Ministry of AYUSH, its efforts to globally promote the AYUSH systems of medicine and to increase International Cooperation to propagate education & research for all AYUSH systems including Homoeopathy.



From left: Mr. Mahesh Chand, Second Secretary, Indian High Commission; Dr Anupriya Chaudhary, Research Officer (H), CCRH; Dr Michael Kojo Kyeremateng, President of the C4C Group of Companies and National Chairman for the Alternative Medical Association of Ghana; Sh. Birender Singh Yadav, Honorable High Commissioner of India and Mr. Pradeep Gupta, First Secretary, Indian High Commission at the press meet organized by the Indian High Commission on 6th July 2017

Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary talked about infrastructure homoeopathy in India and the activities conducted by Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy for development of this system of medicine. Dr. Michael Kojo Kyeremateng further talked about the status of alternative medical system of medicines and facilities for homoeopathic healthcare in Ghana.

This was followed by interactive sessions with the media and the officials. Deliberations were held on scope of development of homoeopathy in Ghana, how the system can be beneficial for health care of the people and about the sensitization & training of students of homoeopathy during this visit of experts which shall help to explore the avenues of mutual cooperation and technical exchange between the two countries to achieve tangible outcomes.

C. ACADEMIC SESSIONS ON HOMOEOPATHY FOR STUDENTS OF HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE, GHANA and MEETING WITH ACADEMIC STAFF OF COLLEGE

Teaching /lectures for students & practitioners of Homoeopathy – 4th July 2017 to 14th July 2017

C4C Group of Companies has homoeopathic colleges and hospitals at various places in Ghana. The experts conducted lectures for the students of the C4C Homoeopathic Medical College at Accra. The students were sensitized about the AYUSH systems in India, the infrastructure of AYUSH in India, history of Homoeopathy and its present position in India. Detailed sessions were taken on basic aspects of 04 homoeopathic subjects: Organon of Medicine & homoeopathic philosophy, Materia Medica, Pharmacy and Repertory.

35 students from 1st and 2nd year of the course and practicing homoeopathic practitioners were taught using interactive methods and power point presentations. The documentary “Homoeopathy: Science of Gentle Healing” developed by the CCRH was shown to the students. List of topics covered under the various subjects is enclosed at Annexure-1.



Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary and Dr. Divya Taneja with the students of C4C Homoeopathic Medical College, Accra during the sensitization lectures

Meeting with personnel's of C4C group of companies and Academic staff of C4C Homoeopathic Medical College – 3rd July 2017, 9th July 2017 and 15th July 2017

Meetings were held with Dr. Michael Kojo Kyeremateng, President, C4C Group of companies; Dr. Kojo Asamuah, Registrar, C4C Homoeopathic Medical College, Cape Coast; Mr Matthew Asumadu A., Vice President (General) and Mr Mikail Dee Dee A., Vice President (Operations), C4C Group of companies regarding the interactive sessions/ lectures to be taken up for the students of the college. Discussions were held on the topics and subjects that the students were being taught in the college and the training needs for the students.

D. MEDICAL CARE AND VISIT TO HEALTH CARE FACILITIES & BOTANICAL GARDEN

Free medical consultation camp – 11th July 2017

The Indian High Commission in Ghana in coordination with the Indian Association of Ghana organized a free medical consultation camp for the Indian community and Ghanaians. The patients were given medical advice and prescribed homeopathic medicines by Dr. Divya Taneja and Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary. The patients were also informed about the availability of homoeopathic medicines online, in Europe and other parts of the world.



Dr Divya Taneja and Dr Anupriya Chaudhary giving medical consultation to the Ghanaians & Indian community in the free medical consultation camp organized by The Indian High Commission in Ghana in coordination with the Indian Association of Ghana

Visit to C4C Homoeopathic Hospital – 14th July 2017

Dr. Divya Taneja made a visit to the C4C Homoeopathic Hospital at Accra. The clinical set up had out-patient facilities only. There were two consulting physicians. The patients visiting the hospital were examined and the records of cases were prepared. The prescription can be homoeopathic medicine or radionics medicines. The homoeopathic medicines are usually procured from India.



Visit to C4C Hospital

Visit to Botanical Garden at Aburi Hills – 09th July 2017

A visit to the Botanical Garden was organized by the Indian High Commission in Ghana. Dr. Divya Taneja, Dr. Anupriya Chaudhary and Mr. Mahesh Chand visited Aburi on the 09th July 2017. The place had magnificent ancient flora and many unusual amalgamation of different types of flora was seen to grow in the same tree. The garden was a resource house of many plants with possible medicinal potential. It was interesting to see abundance of huge tress of cocoa, which Ghana is famous for.



Natural amalgamation of flora



Cocoa fruit grown in abundance

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Homoeopathy is at a nascent stage in Ghana and there is potential for the system to gain foothold within the community. The Government of India has recently initiated the Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC). The main objective of the corridor is to enhance growth and connectivity between Asia and Africa. The corridor will focus on four areas: Development Cooperation Projects, Quality Infrastructure and Institutional Connectivity, Enhancing Skills, and People-to-People Partnership. Agriculture, health, technology, and disaster management have been identified as the main areas of development cooperation. This opportunity can be exploited for mutual cooperation between India and Ghana for development of Homoeopathy on various aspects.
 - Regulations:
 - The Govt. is open to the idea of effective and efficient health care opportunities, for which Homoeopathy can also be used also with the existing modern medicine and Ghanaian herbal medicine
 - The Ghana government and homoeopathic fraternity can be helped by India for formulations of regulations to allow the system to develop in an effective manner.
 - Education
 - There are possibilities to develop academic infrastructure in Ghana.
 - Guidelines for education can be developed on international parameters.
 - There are limited teachers of Homoeopathy in the country, where Indian faculty can support and train students and practitioners.
 - Students are sincere and exhibit an aptitude for learning. Online courses may be developed by the Council to provide a platform for students to learn the subjects of homoeopathy.
 - Research
 - A pilot project of integration of herbal medicine has been undertaken by the Ghanaian government. Possibilities of undertaking a similar project with homoeopathy can be explored in mutual cooperation between India and Ghana
 - Practice
 - Considering that there is no impedance for practice of homoeopathy in Ghana, the practitioners in India can provide their services in Ghana. Mutual opportunities for exchange of practitioners can also be considered.
- The Council, through the Ministry of AYUSH may initiate a process of collaboration with identified organizations in Ghana for development of regulations, research, practice and education of homoeopathy in Ghana.

Annexure-1

List of topics covered under the various subjects with students of C4C Homoeopathic Medical College

1.	General Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to AYUSH system of medicine • Infrastructure of Homoeopathy in India • Introduction to authentic websites on Homoeopathy -wherein soft copies of Homoeopathic literature(Books/ articles/Research) by various authors and researchers may be accessed by the student • Scope and limitations of Homoeopathy • Common myths about Homoeopathy and the truth behind them • Authors of homoeopathic philosophy and Materia Medica and their writings
2.	Organon of Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of Homoeopathy • Biography & writings of Dr C.F.S. Hahnemann • Cardinal principles of Homoeopathy • Introduction to the book-Organon of Medicine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Editions and evolution of the book -Ground plan of the book -Important aphorisms • Concept of health, diseases and cure in Homoeopathy • Concept of vital force, its attributes and role in health and diseases • Therapeutic law of cure with examples and related aphorisms and footnotes from Organon of medicine • Three points necessary for cure by Dr Hahnemann • Symptoms; types of symptoms, detailed discussion about characteristic symptoms • Different modes of treatment-antipathy, isopathy, allopathy, homoeopathy • Action of medicines-primary and secondary with examples • Classification of diseases-acute, chronic, pseudo-chronic • Detailed discussion on Case taking (aphorisms 82-104)
3.	Pharmacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Homoeopathic pharmacy • Introduction to pharmacopoeia • Sources of homoeopathic drugs • Potentization • Scales of Potentization • Preparation of homoeopathic drugs – old methods • New methods of preparation of homoeopathic drugs • Trituration & Succussion • Concept of posology and use of potencies
4.	Materia Medica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Homoeopathic Materia Medica • Authors of Homoeopathic Materia Medica • Different ways of studying Materia Medica • Scope & limitations of Materia Medica • Drug pictures of homoeopathic drugs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natrum muriaticum ○ Calcarea Carbonicum ○ Belladonna ○ Aloes socotrina