INTRODUCTION:

In India the first case of COVID-19 was detected on 30th January 2020. As of today the figures in India are confirmed cases 17,656, with 559 deaths so far, according to data published by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on Monday. Of these 14,255 are active cases of COVID-19, 2,841 individuals have recovered and discharged from hospital, one person migrated to another country and 559 people succumbed to the disease. Since 31 December 2019 and as of 20 April 2020, 23,55,853 cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) have been reported, including 1,64,656 deaths. Citizens globally are impacted with diverse information on dos and don’ts during the Pandemic of CODIV-19 and were restricted to maintain a physical distancing, while under total LOCKDOWN condition and even at certain hotspots in curfew like environment. The key challenge was how to connect with the citizens and enable them to access credible information on the pandemic outbreak and how a healthy citizen can remain healthy during the most deadly attack ever happened in the world by an invisible enemy, Coronavirus-19. Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi, India decided to organise a series of seminar for the global community starting from 27th April to connect with the citizens and share the knowledge and communicate in simple, easy to understand language spread over six days through virtual webinar to start a consultative dialogue with all the stakeholders on issues concerning COVID 19 and how Indian Traditional Medicines (AYUSH) can play a role in globally to partner with Modern Medical Science.

ROLE OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO EMPOWER CITIZENS-PATIENTS TO FIGHT AGAINST CORONAVIRUS:

Government of India immediately sprang into action by launching a 24X7 Helpline Number on Phone and email: COVID-19 Helpline Number: +91-11-23978046 Toll Free : 1075 Helpline Email ID: ncov2019@gov.in In order to enable citizens to access information from credible source and supplement the work done by Government of India and the State
Governments, Patient Safety and Access Initiative of India Foundation (FSAIIF) decided to collaborate with the Institute of Medical Sciences (IMS), Banaras Hindu University (BHU) to reach out to the patients and citizens to take advantage of all the facilities provided by the various stakeholders to credible information and seek consultation on preventive and curative care through the telemedicine centre of BHU, which was made official by Government of India on 25\textsuperscript{th} March 2020 through a publication on “\textbf{Telemedicine Practice Guidelines Enabling Registered Medical Practitioners to Provide Healthcare Using Telemedicine}” released by the BOARD OF GOVERNORS, In supersession of the Medical Council of India in partnership with NITI Aayog. Subsequently Government of India launched the National Teleconsultation Centre (CoNTeC) on 28\textsuperscript{th} March 2020 a single mobile number (+91 9115444155) for seeking information from anywhere in the country/world by COVID-19 treating doctors to reach the CoNTeC which has six lines that can be used simultaneously at present. The incoming calls will be picked up by the CoNTeC Managers, who will then handover the call to the appropriate expert doctors from the clinical domains as desired by the calling specialists managing the COVID-19 cases anywhere in the country. The Managers will guide the callers in establishing a two way video call using the WhatsApp, Skype or Google Duo as preferred by the caller. The callers from the NMCN network can connect anytime using the Telemedicine infrastructure at their end. Subsequently BHU Telemedicine Centre started providing information and consultation to the citizens on phone number +91542-2368028 to connect with registered medical practitioners. The calls were received by operators and then as per patient need are transferred to respective doctors for telephone consultation. The centre started functioning from 9am to 5 pm every day except Sunday. Currently consultations in Medicine, cardio, endocrine, Orthopedics, Gynecology, Gastroenterology, nephrology, TB and chest, pediatrics, surgery and Ayurveda Services are available. Due to the successful implementation of the Telemedicine Consultation in BHU, it was felt that globally citizens are keen to know more about Ayurveda Science, which is the traditional form of Indian Medicine and how it can play a partnership role with Modern Medical Science. Government of India engaged all the concerned Ministries to work on a partnership mode between Ministry of Ayush, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Ministry of Science and Technology along with eleven Empowered Groups dealing with all the key issues to make the citizens, patients and healthcare
providers a sense of comfort and assurance to fully protect the 1.39 billion citizens of India and 7.8 billion citizens globally.

THE NEED FOR AN INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR AND REGISTRATION:

The faulty members of Institute of Medical Sciences felt that BHU should connect with the citizens globally for seven days starting from Monday 27\textsuperscript{th} April to Sunday 2\textsuperscript{nd} May 2020 during the LOCKDOWN period to sensitise them about the benefits of Ayurveda and its long traditional journey. It was agreed that starting from 27\textsuperscript{th} April the key faculty members of BHU and other experts from India will make themselves available free of cost to the global citizens on virtual mode (Video Conference) over a seminar at 11 AM Indian Standard Time (IST) daily for atleast two hours of interaction touching the various dimensions of CODIV-19 Pandemic and how citizens can stay healthy during the lockdown condition and in future after normalcy. The AGENDA of the seminar day wise follows and citizens can access the Webinar free of cost after due registration and permission to enter as per the guidelines issues by Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs. The invitation to the seminar will be restricted and the link to the webinar will be shared in an exclusive manner only after due verification of the participant.

A BRIEF ABOUT INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (IMS), BHU.

The history of medical education in Varanasi, the oldest living city in the world and the cultural capital of India, is at least 2500 years old. It was here that the great Indian Surgeon Sushruta lived and practiced medicine and surgery around the 5th century B.C. and also compiled his treatise, the Sushruta Samhita. In view of this perspective it was but natural that medical education would become one of the priorities of the then developing BHU way back in 1920s. \textbf{Bharat Ratna Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya, the illustrious founder of BHU}, had the vision of integrating the best of Ayurvedic and modern systems of medicine. This basic idea initiated the training of Ayurveda in BHU in 1922 as a department in the Faculty of Oriental Learning and Theology. Soon thereafter, in 1927, a separate Ayurvedic College was started for imparting training in both in Ayurveda and Modern Medical Sciences under the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery (Ayurveda) and a six years course Ayurvedacharya with Medicine and Surgery (AMS) was started. In 1959, the undergraduate course in Ayurveda was suspended to provide more emphasis on post-graduate education and
research. The Ayurvedic college was converted into the College of Medical Sciences in 1960 under the leadership of Prof. K. N. Udupa, at its helm as founder principal. In 1963 the Post-Graduate Institute of Indian Medicine was established. In 1963 a Postgraduate Institute of Indian Medicine was established as an integral part of the College of Medical Sciences and postgraduate courses in various Ayurvedic specialties were started. Simultaneously, postgraduate medical education was also started in a phased manner in Modern Medicine. In 1971, the College of Medical Sciences was upgraded to the Institute of Medical Sciences. In 1978, the existing Faculty was bifurcated into the Faculty of Ayurveda and Faculty of Medicine. In 1999, the four and half years' duration graduation course in Ayurveda followed by compulsory internship of one year was started, as per the recommendations of Central Council of Indian Medicine, leading to the award of BAMS degree. Six new departments were created in year 2006 making a total of 14 departments and 15 degree giving specialties in the Faculty. The Faculty of Ayurveda is known for integration of ancient Indian Medical knowledge and modern medical sciences. The integration of Ayurveda and Modern Medicine is a continuous process affected by the interaction, interdisciplinary research, education and patient care between the departments and centers of the institute. The Faculty is situated in proximity to other Faculties such as Humanities, Social Sciences, and institutes of Technology and Agricultural Sciences. This has also greatly helped in the development of collaborative research.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE SEMINAR:**

- To link citizens globally with the benefits of Ayurveda and sensitise them on how to access the Indian Traditional Medicines (AYUSH)
- To answer all questions from the citizens regarding AYUSH and concerns rose due to COVID-19 Pandemic and the role of AYUSH to tackle the Pandemic now and in future.
- To document the interactive session for future use based on inputs from experts and participants on the way forward on how to make Modern Medical Science partner with Indian Traditional Medical Sciences (AYUSH) in the interest of Patients and enhance research and innovation to promote AYUSH globally after the LOCKDOWN is lifted.
AGENDA

We propose to invite the following at the inaugural session or any of the days for their presence as per their convenience:

- **Shri Shripad Yesso Naik**, Minister of State (Independent charge) Ministry of AYUSH as the Chief Guest at the inaugural session.
- **Dr. Vinod Kumar Paul**, Member, NITI Aayog, will be invited to be our Guest of Honour
- **Dr. Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar**, Vice Chancellor, (BHU) will Chair the Inaugural Session
- **Dr. V. K. Shukla**, Rector, BHU, along with **Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha**, Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Ayush, shall be invited as Key Note Speakers
- **Dr. R. K. Jain**, Director, IMS BHU, shall give the Welcome Address
- The seminar will be moderated by **Prof. Bejon Kumar Misra**, Founder of Patient Safety and Access Initiative of India Foundation, New Delhi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.N</th>
<th>Day &amp; Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 01  | Monday 27th April 2020 11 AM – 1 PM (IST) | Prof. Yamini Bhusan Tripathi, Dean, Dept. of Ayurveda  
Prof K N Dwivedi, Head of Dept. Dravyaguna  
Prof. J S Tripathi | “Role of Ayush System in managing COVID-19 infected patients”  
“Precautions and suggestions for Patients after lifting of Lockdown”  
“Potential Application of Kaphahar Rasayana Chikitsa in Management of Covid 19” |
| 02  | Tuesday 28th April 2020 11 AM – 1 PM (IST) | Prof. Mita Kotecha | “Role of Ayurvedic herbs to help in Pandemic of Covid 19”  
“Role of
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Speaker/Presenter</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 03  | Wednesday 29th April 2020 11 AM – 1 PM (IST) | Prof. Tanuja Nesari, Prof B K Dwivedi | Immunomodulators in Covid 19”
|     |               |                  | “Fundamental Principles of Management of Covid 19 in Ayurveda” |
|     |               | Prof. Kishor Patwardhan | “Learning Opportunity in Ayurveda while Staying at Home” |
|     |               | Dr Vijay Shrivastava, Vaidya Dube Sushil | “Applicability of Shodhana Karma in the Management of COVID-19 Pandemic”
|     |               |                  | “Preventive and Clinical Measures for Communicable Diseases in Ayurveda and Ancient Indian Culture” |
| 04  | Thursday 30th April 2020 11 AM – 1 PM (IST) | Prof Anand K Chaudhary, Prof. C. S. Pandey, Dr. Namrata Joshi | "Rasaoushadhies of Ayurveda -An Answer to Combat COVID"
|     |               |                  | “Concept of Infectious Disease and their Management in Ayurveda”
<p>|     |               |                  | “Role of Ayurvedic pharmaceutics in the management of viral infections in Perspectives of” |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05 Friday 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; May 2020</td>
<td>11 AM – 1 PM (IST)</td>
<td><strong>Prof KN Murthy</strong>&lt;br&gt;Head, Dept. of Agad Tantra, Dept. of Kayachikitsa</td>
<td>“Role of Rasayana Therapy in combating Covid 19”&lt;br&gt;<strong>Prof. Rajendra Prasad</strong>&lt;br&gt;Kayachikitsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Dr. Sunita Suman</strong>&lt;br&gt;Department of Prasuti and Stree Rog, Dept. of Kayachikitsa</td>
<td>“Management of respiratory problems through Ayurveda: COVID-19 Perspective”&lt;br&gt;“Precautions and Management of COVID-19 Infection during Pregnancy”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06 Saturday 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; May 2020</td>
<td>11 AM – 1 PM (IST)</td>
<td><strong>Dr. Vaibhav Jaiswal</strong>&lt;br&gt;Asst. Prof. Dept. of Kaumarbhritya/Balrog</td>
<td>“Ayurvedic Action Plan for prevention and control of novel Covid 19 in children”&lt;br&gt;<strong>Dr. PS Byadgi</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Dr. Shobha Bhat K</strong>&lt;br&gt;Associate Professor Department of Agad Tantra</td>
<td>“Understanding the diagnosis of Covid 19 and its management”&lt;br&gt;<strong>Prof. KK Pandey</strong>&lt;br&gt;Department of Shalya/Sangyaharan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Prof. KK Pandey</strong>&lt;br&gt;Department of Shalya/Sangyaharan</td>
<td>“Unrevealed concepts of Agad Tantra in prevention of Covid 19”&lt;br&gt;“Tridimensional module of Ayurveda against Covid 19: Challenges and Opportunities”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COVID-19 Helpline Number:** +91-11-23978046 Toll Free : 1075  
**Helpline Email ID:** ncov2019@gov.in