

## Govt provides support worth Rs 80 Cr to boost ayurveda in North East

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### Major Plans for boosting AYUSH initiatives in Northeast

In a major boost to the initiatives to promote traditional medicinal practices in the Northeast, Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH, has announced a slew of major initiatives at a conference of Ayush and Health Ministers of all the North Eastern States held on 28 August.

The conference was organised by the Ministry of AYUSH to discuss how the Ayush System of Medicines can be efficiently mainstreamed and can become more popular in the Northeastern states.

The Union Minister Sonowal announced that in order to boost the education and training of Ayush medicinal experts, financial provision of Rs 70 crore, under National Ayush Mission (NAM) support, is to be provided for establishment of a new Ayurvedic College at Dudhnoi in Goalpara, Assam.

The Ministry of AYUSH has also decided to upgrade the Government Ayurvedic College in Guwahati and develop it as a Centre of Excellence and a sum of Rs 10 crore as financial grant is to be provided in this regard, he added.

Sonowal also announced that as many as 1000 new Health & Wellness Centres (HWC), as part of the National Ayush Mission (NAM) Scheme, will be opened in the NE states for growth and development of Ayush systems. With an aim to boost the popularity of traditional medicines provided by Ayush, the minister also announced setting up of 100 Ayush dispensaries under NAM in the north east region.

Informing that a facilitation Centre for Semi Processing of raw material is going to be opened up in NE the Union Minister said that along with this, it is also envisaged to set up Regional Raw Drug Repository (RRDR) in NE states in collaboration with National Institute of Bio-resources and sustainable development in Imphal, Manipur under Department of Biotechnology.