

## Ministry of Ayush inks MoU to enhance geriatric healthcare and combat substance abuse

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**To develop elderly-specific training modules, treatment protocols, yoga training programmes, sharing of preventive and curative practices**



In a landmark move aimed at improving the well-being of senior citizens and addressing the growing concern of substance abuse, the Ministry of Ayush and the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJE) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This strategic partnership seeks to implement Ayush-based interventions to promote geriatric healthcare and combat substance abuse.

The MoU is a pioneering step to develop cooperative initiatives for health promotion among senior citizens and those affected by substance abuse. By leveraging the strengths of Ayush systems, both Ministries committed to working together on various initiatives, including awareness programs, capacity-building for service providers and the establishment of geriatric health and de-addiction units under Ayush autonomous bodies.

### **Key objectives of the MoU include:**

**Cooperative Efforts:** Developing cooperation, convergence, and synergy between the Ministry of Ayush and DoSJE to foster innovative initiatives for promoting the health of senior citizens, reducing the demand for drugs, addressing substance abuse, and aiding mental rehabilitation. This will be achieved through awareness generation and capacity building of service providers using Ayush systems.

**Research Promotion:** Encouraging research in the areas of geriatric health, substance abuse, and mental health, with a focus on exploring the therapeutic benefits of traditional healthcare practices.

**Health Promotion Activities:** Supporting additional activities for health promotion tailored to both the geriatric population and individuals affected by substance abuse.