

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 89  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2018**

**IMPROVING MENSTRUAL HEALTH IN THE COUNTRY**

**89. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the initiatives taken by Government to improve the menstrual health in the country;
- (b) whether Government provides free sanitary napkins to girls in Government schools; and
- (c) if so, the details of the funds allocated and utilised for the same by Government?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): To address the need of menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls, Government of India is supporting the Menstrual Hygiene Scheme, under which, funds are provided to States/UTs through National Health Mission for decentralized procurement of sanitary napkins packs for provision primarily to rural adolescent girls at subsidized rates as per proposals received from the States and UTs in their Programme Implementation Plans. Awareness generation about menstrual hygiene is also a part of this scheme.

Besides this, Ministry of Women and Child Development is running a Scheme for Adolescent Girl for 11-14 year old girls out of school to impart information on personal hygiene, management of menstruation.

- (b): Under menstrual hygiene scheme sanitary napkins are provided at a subsidized rate of Rs. 6 for a pack of 6 napkins to adolescent girls living primarily in the rural areas of the country.
- (c): During Financial year 2018-19, Rs. 40 crores have been allocated for the same.

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