

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1871
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2023**

**PROMOTION OF MENSTRUAL HYGIENE AMONG ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND WOMEN
IN RURAL AREAS**

1871: SMT. SANGEETA YADAV

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

- a) whether Government has any scheme to promote menstrual hygiene among rural adolescent girls and women;
- b) if so, the details thereof and budgetary allocation and expenditure in the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;
- c) the percentage of adolescent girls and women with access to and use of hygienic methods such as sanitary napkins;
- d) the steps taken to ensure the availability and affordability of sanitary napkins to rural adolescent girls and women, especially in the State of Uttar Pradesh; and
- e) the measures taken by Government to create awareness in rural adolescent girls on menstrual health and to break stigma and taboo associated with menstruation?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (e)

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare implements the 'Scheme for Promotion of Menstrual Hygiene' under Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (RKSK) to reach out all adolescents girls in the age group of 10-19 years, rural and urban, married and unmarried, in and out-of-school. The objectives of the scheme are to increase awareness among adolescent girls on menstrual hygiene, to increase access to and use of high quality sanitary napkins by adolescent girls and to ensure safe disposal of sanitary napkins in an environmentally friendly manner.

The funds are sanctioned based on the proposals received from the States/UTs in their Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) under National Health Mission. State/UT wise Approvals and Expenditure towards Menstrual hygiene scheme under NHM for last three years is at **Annexure 'A'**

As per NFHS- 5, 77.3% of women aged 15-24 years use a hygienic method of protection during their menstrual cycle, whereas in NFHS-4 it was 57.7%. Awareness generation among adolescent girls in schools about safe and hygienic menstrual health practices are done through the existing service

delivery and health promotion mechanisms in schools. Further, IEC/ BCC activities are carried out by the States/ UTs to create awareness among the adolescent girls and other stakeholders with the funds approved as per the proposals received in the Programme Implementation Plan (PIPs) of the respective State/ UT under National Health Mission.

In addition, vide a joint letter dated 08.03.2022 of Secretary, DoSEL and Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, the states have been advised to utilize funds earmarked for; (1) Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) and Management of menstrual waste under Swachchh Bharat Mission (Gramin) Phase-II at village level. (2) For installation or maintenance of incinerators in schools having girls from classes VI to XII and (3) For creating awareness on MHM among adolescent girls and in the society in general.

Under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP), Government has launched Jan Aushadhi Suvidha Sanitary Napkins at Rs. 1/- per pad for women to ensure easy availability of the menstrual health services at affordable prices.

Annexure 'A'

Details of SPIP Approvals and Expenditure under Menstrual Hygiene Scheme during the period from F.Y. 2020-21 to 2022-23

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	2020-21		2021-22		2022-23	
		SPIP Approvals	Expenditure	SPIP Approvals	Expenditure	SPIP Approvals	Expenditure
1	A & N Island	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Andhra Pradesh	589.35	679.35	2,977.47	2,623.82	2,009.08	2,000.00
3	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Assam	165.34	-	601.80	-	274.01	5.84
5	Bihar	789.64	0.00	-	-	106.50	-
6	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Chhattisgarh	-	-	303.48	303.49	-	-
8	DNH & DD	-	-	5.04	-	1.00	-
9	Delhi	182.40	-	188.20	-	348.27	0.80
10	Goa	-	-	15.30	5.34	6.03	4.13
11	Gujarat	-	-	327.37	96.21	50.00	30.32
12	Haryana	-	574.87	297.60	308.29	-	-
13	Himachal Pradesh	98.00	275.52	99.45	-	100.00	0.67
14	Jammu and Kashmir	443.44	203.15	123.47	11.49	463.71	137.04
15	Jharkhand	-	0.50	702.37	716.30	-	0.85
16	Karnataka	-	-	370.39	-	20.16	-
17	Kerala	119.70	133.10	230.33	26.45	195.26	38.86
18	Ladakh	-	-	42.80	26.25	-	-
19	Lakshadweep	7.71	-	10.42	-	8.63	-
20	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	969.44	333.77	91.40	-
21	Maharashtra	943.97	-	-	1,460.21	2,092.03	566.51
22	Manipur	114.04	-	116.24	0.37	116.78	116.20
23	Meghalaya	-	-	62.92	82.23	2.00	0.00
24	Mizoram	-	-	92.64	-	-	-
25	Nagaland	5.69	-	27.48	125.55	22.19	104.25
26	Odisha	375.41	1,024.80	1,919.83	1,457.87	791.67	453.58
27	Puducherry	36.00	-	51.83	6.91	36.00	-
28	Punjab	139.65	106.97	1,218.21	19.27	1,181.65	45.28
29	Rajasthan	1,500.00	1,500.00	2,082.35	511.72	-	-
30	Sikkim	-	-	4.51	4.21	40.10	0.78
31	Tamil Nadu	-	-	186.00	0.45	4,588.50	0.02
32	Telangana	-	-	463.24	693.20	3,032.17	4.00
33	Tripura	56.00	-	99.15	189.72	112.72	71.85
34	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	5,226.92	-	-	-
35	Uttarakhand	261.57	0.77	152.93	117.91	147.65	-
36	West Bengal	568.91	813.28	1,660.68	961.14	3,892.51	932.35

Note:

1. SPIP Approval and Expenditure is as per the available Financial Management Reports submitted by State/UTs and are provisional.
2. In the year 2021-22 separate FMR for Menstrual Hygiene was not captured, hence SPIP Approvals and Expenditure under procurement of Drugs and Supplies for Adolescent Health is provided