GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AYUSH

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2728 ANSWERED ON 25.03.2025

Improving the nutritional status of adolescent girls

2728 Shri R. Dharmar:

Will the Minister of *Ayush* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has signed any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) for improving the nutritional status of adolescent girls;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the key objectives and areas of collaboration outlined in the MoU;
- (c) the initiatives under this MoU that have been implemented so far and their impact;
- (d) the steps taken by Government to monitor the progress of this collaboration; and
- (e) the plans for scaling up these initiatives to benefit a larger number of adolescent girls across the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH (SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Ayush and Ministry of Women and Child Development signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on February 26, 2024 with the objectives to provide Ayurveda interventions to improve the health conditions and prevention of Anaemia in adolescent girls (14-18 years) in the five identified districts under Mission Utkarsh viz., Assam – Dhubri, Chattisgarh – Bastar, Jharkhand – Paschimi Sighbhum, Maharashtra – Gadchiroli and Rajasthan – Dholpur.

(c) to (e) The project has been initiated successfully at Dhubri (Assam) on 25.10.2024, Dholpur (Rajasthan) on 19.12.2024, West Singhbhum (Jharkhand) on 7.12.2024 and Gadchiroli (Maharashtra) on 9.12.2024 and at Bastar (Chhattisgarh) on 23.1.2025. The Anganwadi Workers in the above five districts have been sensitized regarding anaemia about their role in implementation, and the Ayurveda interventions used in this project and its hazards in women of reproductive age. The beneficiaries are also sensitized through IEC material and awareness lectures about different aspects of anemia are assessed for signs and symptoms of anemia by Ayush doctors and are provided with Ayurveda interventions for nutritional enhancement to manage anaemia prevailing in these districts.

A Data Safety Monitoring Board has been constituted by Central Ayurveda Research Institute, Mumbai and the Central Ethics Committee to monitor the project independently.
