

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2681  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2026**

**PROMOTION OF MENSTRUAL HEALTH AND HYGIENE**

**2681 SHRI S.R. SIVALINGAM:**

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the constitutional dimensions examined by Government regarding recognition of menstrual health and hygiene as a component of dignity and access to healthcare;
- (b) the policy reviews undertaken by Government concerning integration of menstrual health and hygiene within national public-health programmes;
- (c) the initiatives envisaged by Government to expand access to affordable menstrual hygiene products;
- (d) the arrangements presently available for improving menstrual hygiene infrastructure in educational institutions and public spaces; and
- (e) the measures contemplated by Government for ensuring universal access to menstrual health and hygiene facilities across the country?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (e): Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management (MHM) is a multidimensional and inter-ministerial issue requiring coordinated action by multiple stakeholder Ministries/Departments and States/Union Territories in accordance with their respective statutory mandates. Under the National Health Mission (NHM), States/UTs are supported for Menstrual Hygiene Schemes based on their proposals in their Annual Programme Implementation Plans(PIPs) as per the regulatory norms.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare implements the Menstrual Hygiene Scheme (MHS) for promotion of menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls. The Scheme focuses on awareness

generation, access to quality and affordable sanitary napkins, safe and environment-friendly disposal, and counselling on safe menstrual practices.

In furtherance of its public health mandate, the Ministry undertakes sustained Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities, awareness generation and sensitization programmes through health facilities, community platforms, frontline health workers, digital dissemination mechanisms and adolescent-focused programme platforms.

Monitoring under the National Health Mission (NHM) is carried out through a robust, multi-layered framework that includes review of State-wise Key Deliverables against approved targets during NPCC meetings with all States/UTs. In addition, annual Common Review Missions (CRMs) provide independent, on-ground assessments of programme implementation, health system strengthening, and progress on key indicators.

In collaboration with concerned line Ministries, the Menstrual Hygiene Policy for School-going Girls is implemented through coordinated action by States/UTs to promote access to safe, effective and affordable menstrual hygiene measures in schools through their respective and concerned departments.

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