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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2634 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17th MARCH, 2017

RASHTRIYA KISHOR SWASTHYA KARYAKRAM

2634. KUNWAR BHARATENDRA:

SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:

DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:

SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:

SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched a nationwide programme called Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (RKSK) with 1.6 lakh youths working as peer educators to adolescents and responding to their queries on health issues including mental and physical changes, nutrition and addiction, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the amount allocated for this purpose;
- (c) whether the Government has also launched the Saathiya resource kit including Saathiya Salah mobile application for adolescents as part of the RKSK, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other steps taken by the Government to provide information to boys and girls in the villages regarding good health and wellness?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)

- (a): Yes. Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram was launched in 2014 with Peer Education Programme as one of the component. Under this, Peer Educators are selected and trained on six thematic areas of RKSK namely- nutrition, sexual reproductive health, substance misuse, non-communicable diseases, mental health, injuries and violence. These peer educators work as a change agent helping in responding to their queries raised within their groups, pertaining to the above mentioned six thematic areas.
- (b): An amount of Rs.3688 lakhs has been allocated for this in FY 2016-17.
- (c): Yes. The Saathiya Resource Kit includes training manuals for ANMs and Peer Educator, activity book and frequently asked questions for Peer Educators and Tools for interactive activities.

Saathiya App is a mobile based app, free for download, which has reference material, frequently asked questions based on adolescent health issues pertaining to the six thematic areas.

(d): Apart from Peer Education Programme, the counsellors conduct outreach sessions within the community and ASHA organizes meetings of adolescent girls and boys, wherein they discuss the common adolescent health issues.