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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6557 TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH APRIL, 2018

DISPOSAL OF SANITARY NAPKINS

6557. SHRI HARISH MEENA:

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

- (a) whether disposal of sanitary napkins especially gel based napkins, pose environmental threat when thrown in the dustbin and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to promote other menstrual hygiene products like menstrual cups and sustainable cloth pads which are more sustainable and environment friendly and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

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

- (a): Improper disposal of used sanitary napkins may pose environmental threat as they stay in the environment for long period.
- (b): Health is a State subject and funds are sanctioned to the States based on the proposal received from the States in their Programme Implementation Plans. No. Proposals have been received for menstrual hygiene products other than sanitary napkins.