

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6670

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY THE 06TH APRIL, 2018
CHAITRA 16, 1940 (SAKA)

GST RATE ON SANITARY NAPKINS

6670. SHRI HARISH MEENA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to exempt the sanitary pads from Goods and Services Tax (GST) to increase its accessibility and affordability for all especially the low income groups and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) if not, the alternative measures planned/being planned by the Government to promote menstrual hygiene?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA)

(a): Sir, at present there is no proposal to exempt sanitary napkins from GST.

(b): Sir, states are provided funds for Menstrual Hygiene Scheme under the programme implementation plans for decentralized procurement of sanitary napkins at their own level. These are then distributed at a subsidized rate of Rs. 1 per napkin to the adolescent girls residing primarily in rural areas. Further, funds are also given for capacity building of health workers and information, education and communication to promote menstrual hygiene.
