

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 543
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH JULY, 2018**

SANITARY NAPKINS

543. SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL:

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

- (a) whether there is any provision from the Government to make available sanitary napkins free-of-cost for women at village hospitals, district hospitals and medical colleges situated in the country;
- (b) whether any dialogue in this regard is in process between the Union and the State Governments;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to include Self-Help-Groups for manufacturing sanitary napkins in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

- (a): Health is a State subject. Funds are provided to the States as per their proposals received in the Programme Implementation Plans (PIP), under National Health Mission. Under the Menstrual Hygiene Scheme of Government of India, Adolescent Girls (aged 10-19 yrs.) residing primarily in rural areas are provided with sanitary napkins at subsidized rates of Rs.6/- per pack of six napkins through the ASHAs to adolescent girls. There is no provision of Government of India funding for providing napkins free of cost to women through district hospitals and medical colleges.
- (b): No.
- (c): No.
- (d): Does not arise.

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