

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1994
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST DECEMBER, 2018**

ANAEMIA IN WOMEN

1994. SHRI DHARAM VIRA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2018 Report has reported that 51.4 percent of Indian women in the reproductive age are anaemic and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has taken or proposes to take any measure for reducing the instances of anaemia among women in reproductive age group; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c): Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2018 Report states that 51.4 percent of Indian women in the reproductive age are anaemic.

Under the National Health Mission (NHM), following steps have been taken for reducing instances of anemia among women in reproductive age group:

- Reduction of Anemia is prioritized by the Govt. under the recently launched POSHAN Abhiyaan as it aims to reduce anaemia prevalence by 3 percent per year among children, adolescents, women in reproductive age group and pregnant women between the year 2018 and 2022. In this regard, Anemia Mukt Bharat (AMB) Strategy has been formulated (also known as Intensified National Iron Plus Initiative) for holistic and comprehensive management of anemia among the six target age groups including women in reproductive age group.
- Guidelines have been issued to the States/UTs for universal screening of pregnant women at all health facilities. 180 Iron and folic acid (IFA) tablets are given in the ante natal and 180 IFA tablets are given in the post-natal period to all pregnant women. If pregnant women are found to be clinically anemic, they are given double doses of tablets as a part of treatment regimen. For Adolescent girls of 10-19 years of age weekly iron folic acid is provided throughout.
- To address anaemia due to worm infestation, deworming of pregnant women is done after first trimester of pregnancy and biannually in Adolescents.
- To tackle the problem of anemia due to malaria particularly in women and children, Long Lasting Insecticide Nets (LLINs) and Insecticide Treated Bed Nets (ITBNs) are being distributed in endemic areas.
- Health and nutrition education through Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material in the form of posters, hoardings, wall-writings and audio-visuals is undertaken.