

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1661
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16TH DECEMBER, 2022**

HARMFUL CHEMICALS IN SANITARY PADS

1661 SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of a study conducted by Delhi based environmental NGO suggesting the presence of high amounts of chemicals in sanitary pads causing heart diseases, diabetes and cancer etc;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;
- (c) the details of the monitoring mechanism in this regard; and
- (d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (d): An agency has reported the presence of harmful chemicals in sanitary pads sold in India. However, no scientific reports of this study from India has been published in any peer-reviewed scientific journal. Further, review of global scientific literature reveals insufficient evidence to prove any correlation between use of sanitary pads by women and adverse health outcome like heart diseases, diabetes and cancer.

Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) under Department of Consumer Affairs has already published the Indian Standards on sanitary napkins. Further, as informed by BIS, the standardization in the field of Menstrual Products (sanitary pad) is taken by a Technical Textiles for Medtech Applications Sectional Committee.
