

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2986
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH MARCH 2023**

MENSTRUAL HYGIENE SCHEME

2986: SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN

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

- (a) Whether the Menstrual Hygiene Scheme, which aims to address the need for menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls residing primarily in rural areas, is fulfilling its unique objectives of improving access to and use of high quality sanitary napkins by adolescent girls;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT wise along with the relevant details of funds provided to States/ UTs, particularly Kerala, through National Health Missions as per proposals received from them in their Programme Implementation Plans for making provision of sanitary napkin packs to adolescent girls at subsidized rates in the last five years;
- (c) whether any significant steps are being taken to address the anomalies on implementation side and if so the details thereof and if not the reasons thereof; and
- (d) the noteworthy role of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) under the scheme in Kerala?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE**

(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) The Scheme for Promotion of Menstrual Hygiene among adolescent girls in the age group of 10-19 years is implemented by the Government since 2011. The major objectives of the scheme are:

- i) To increase awareness among adolescent girls on Menstrual Hygiene
- ii) To increase access to and use of high quality sanitary napkins by adolescent girls.

iii) To ensure safe disposal of sanitary napkins in an environmentally friendly manner.

Since 2015-16, the Menstrual Hygiene Scheme is supported by National Health Mission through State Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) route based on the proposals received from the States. The States have been instructed to take up procurement of sanitary napkins packs at prices reached through competitive bidding.

26 States/UTs are implementing the scheme either with NHM budget or combined budget of NHM and State. In FY 2021-22 approximately 34.92 lakh adolescent girls were provided sanitary napkin packs every month (HMIS data)

The percentage of women age 15-24 using a hygienic method of protection during their menstrual period has also increased from 58 % in National Family Health Survey 4 (NFHS 4) done in 2015-16 to 78 % in NFHS 5 (2019-21). Similarly, the usage of Sanitary Napkins has also increased from 42% to 64%.

(b) State/ UT wise number of beneficiaries under the Menstrual Hygiene Schemes is placed at **Annexure 'A'**. State/ UT wise funds provided under the Menstrual Hygiene Schemes is placed at **Annexure 'B'**

(c) No anomalies reported yet however the States/ UTs are also taking up capacity building of the health functionaries supported under NHM to sensitize them towards the scheme and for seamless implementation of the Scheme.

Communication material targeted at adolescent girls, their gatekeepers, influencers and community at large developed by MoHFW, other partner ministries, States, Development Partners and NGOs is in use to create awareness on healthy practices during menstruation and to dispel the myths and misconception around it.

(d) The role of the ASHAs under the Scheme is similar in all States/ UTs. ASHAs hold monthly meetings with the adolescent girls in their area to talk about health issues including menstrual hygiene management. The sanitary napkin packs are provided to the adolescent girls at subsidized rates by the Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs).

Annexure A

**State wise and year wise number of total number of adolescent girls (10-19years)
provided with Sanitary Napkins under the Menstrual Hygiene Schemes**

Sr. No	State/ UT	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
1	Andaman & NicobarIsl	0	0	21	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	2418163	3216600	132535	878475	11680448
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	24	14	0	0
4	Assam	22366	413481	232755	20465	29867
5	Bihar	0	0	10242	152	0
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	0	3	0	148	0
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	1976616	184719	0	4920
	Daman & Diu	34893	87669			
9	Delhi	0	0	260526	1067	0
10	Goa	0	0	0	0	0
11	Gujarat	969844	85583	37946	23048	96685
12	Haryana	0	0	0	234548	1388757
13	Himachal Pradesh	1216008	884469	1171903	2968367	1508814
14	Jammu and Kashmir	128352	17532	132793	353858	206740
15	Jharkhand	322938	0	4021	395291	170303
16	Karnataka	6377719	1847769	5675344	1282629	245739
17	Kerala	25161	338740	24054	640	323
18	Ladakh			0	0	0
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	34870	22474	106129	172075	21501
21	Maharashtra	31669	4159	2808112	2889292	1025417
22	Manipur	0	0	0	0	1772
23	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	20
24	Mizoram	14532	0	470	0	854
25	Nagaland	0	0	215	0	600
26	Odisha	1218051	2104508	7644152	5844591	5827548
27	Puducherry	4594	0	0	0	0
28	Punjab	0	55302	1629739	373245	158558
29	Rajasthan	629692	682819	9527	2186	314
30	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	2
31	Tamil Nadu	18000000	14055781	15205511	13436774	14878335
32	Telangana	0	0	3860	0	113
33	Tripura	16029	19747	43935	2637	287131
34	Uttarakhand	0	456948	160949	31539	473320
35	Uttar Pradesh	82328	1375568	1856623	237964	567516
36	West Bengal	360413	1518892	2553337	3628466	3329204

Source : HMIS

Annexure B

Details of State Programme Implementation Plan (SPIP) Approvals under Menstrual Hygiene Scheme during the period from F.Y. 2017-18 to 2021-22

(Rs. In lakhs)

State	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
	SPIP Approvals	SPIP Approvals	SPIP Approvals	SPIP Approvals	SPIP Approvals
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	404.05	407.81	0.00	589.35	2977.47
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Assam	390.70	0.00	288.62	165.34	601.80
Bihar	183.45	0.00	957.60	789.64	0.00
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	303.48
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.04
Delhi	0.00	82.08	97.96	182.40	188.20
Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.30
Gujarat	358.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	327.37
Haryana	489.30	196.90	0.00	0.00	297.60
Himachal Pradesh	266.00	0.00	385.17	98.00	99.45
Jammu & Kashmir	118.06	0.00	102.72	443.44	123.47
Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	702.37
Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	370.39
Kerala	66.50	26.60	119.70	119.70	230.33
Ladakh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	42.80
Lakshadweep	14.40	0.00	0.00	7.71	10.42
Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	107.25	0.00	969.44
Maharashtra	766.08	531.45	100.00	943.97	0.00
Manipur	0.00	0.00	116.20	114.04	116.24
Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	62.92
Mizoram	4.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	92.64
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.69	27.48
Orissa	502.95	804.09	382.23	375.41	1919.83
Puducherry	0.00	0.00	36.00	36.00	51.83
Punjab	140.00	0.00	0.00	139.65	1218.21
Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	3000.00	1500.00	2082.35
Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.51
Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	186.00
Telangana	284.74	273.80	0.00	0.00	463.24
Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	56.00	99.15
Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5226.92
Uttarakhand	0.00	0.00	134.06	261.57	152.93
West Bengal	456.26	0.00	756.65	568.91	1660.68

Note:

1. The above data is as per the available Financial Management Reports reported by State/UTs.
2. In the year 2021-22 separate FMR for Menstrual Hygiene was not captured, hence SPIP Approvals and Expenditure under procurement of Drugs and Supplies for Adolescent Health is provided
3. After the reorganization of the State of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) into the Union Territory of J&K and Union Territory of Ladakh, NHM funds to the UT of Ladakh were disbursed for the first time during 2020-21.
