

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No-482**  
ANSWERED ON- 06/02/2023

**PERIOD (MENSTRUATION) FRIENDLY CAMPUSES**

482. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has directed all higher educational institutions in the country to mandatorily ensure period (menstruation) friendly campuses by facilitating hygienic toilets, clean common rooms, sanitary napkin vending machines with affordable costs, sanitary napkin disposal system and menstrual benefit leave in every semester and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has any ongoing agenda and programme to ensure period friendly campuses in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government will bring legislation to ensure menstruation benefit leave in educational institutions and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) & (b): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that it has developed the "Guidelines for Basic facilities and amenities for safe, secure environment for Women and Women Cell (for sensitization, policy implementation, monitoring and grievance redressal) in HEIs" which inter alia provides that "The HEIs should ensure easy access to basic sanitation and hygiene facilities for women such as clean, well maintained and fully functioning separate restrooms equipped with 24 hours tap water supply, soap, covered dustbins, sanitary pad disposal bins and vending machines in all its buildings. There should be proper sanitary staff deployed to keep the facilities clean and usable at all times."

Further under 'Swachh Bharat and Swasth Bharat', UGC has issued an advisory dated 21.06.2017 to promote menstrual sanitation and proper disposal of menstrual waste by creating awareness, encouraging every woman to use eco-friendly incinerators and promoting research for a biodegradable alternative.

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) vide letter dated 21.08.2017 has issued an advisory to all the Council's approved institutions on promoting menstrual health of adolescent girls by ensuring availability of quality sanitary napkins through sanitary napkins vending machines and ensuring safe and environment friendly disposal of used sanitary napkin through sanitary napkins incinerators.

Further, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is implementing the scheme for Promotion of Menstrual Hygiene since 2011 to promote Menstrual Hygiene among adolescent girls in the age group of 10-19 years as a component of Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram.

(c): No such proposal is under consideration in the Ministry.

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