

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 230
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH MARCH, 2020
SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMME UNDER AYUSHMAN
BHARAT SCHEME**

***230. DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing School Health Programmes to control the prevalence of lifestyle diseases among children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the mechanism put in place to monitor and evaluate the said programmes;
- (c) whether the Government has recently launched school health programme under Ayushman Bharat–Health and Wellness Centres to promote a healthy lifestyle among students, if so, the details and the aims and objectives thereof;
- (d) whether his Ministry has also involved the Ministry of Human Resource Development in this initiative, if so, the details thereof along with the amount of funds earmarked by the Government for the said initiative;
- (e) the number of schools and the number of students proposed to be covered in the first phase of implementation of this programme; and
- (f) the steps taken to popularize the programme among school children?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

- (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.230* FOR 6TH MARCH, 2020**

(a) to (f) Yes, Government of India has recently launched Health and Wellness Ambassadors Initiative under Ayushman Bharat to promote a healthy lifestyle among students. It is a joint initiative of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource & Development.

The aim of the programme is to foster the growth, development and educational achievement of school going children by promoting their health and wellbeing. A total of 11 themes have been identified. These themes are Growing Up Healthy, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health, Interpersonal Relationships, Values and Responsible Citizenship, Gender Equality, Nutrition Health and Sanitation, Promotion of Healthy Lifestyles, Prevention and Management of Substance Misuse, Reproductive Health and HIV Prevention, Safety and Security Against Violence and Injuries and Promotion of Safe Use of Internet Media and Social Media.

Two teachers in every government school, designated as “Health and Wellness Ambassadors”, will be trained in a 24-hour curriculum which has been designed by NCERT in consultation with various experts. The Health and Wellness Ambassador along with Health and Wellness Messengers will transact age appropriate, culturally sensitive activity based sessions for one hour per week in a year in schools to promote joyful learning.

The existing infrastructure of District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) under the School Education Department in States will be used for capacity building of Health and Wellness Ambassadors across the country. The programme reporting and monitoring will also be carried out through the existing mechanism of School Education Department i.e. SHALAKOSH/ U-DISE.

A total of 200 districts have been identified for implementation of the School Health Programme under Ayushman Bharat in the first phase across the country. During FY 2020-21, a budget of Rs 7000 per school has been proposed in the State Programme Implementation Plans for operationalisation of this programme under National Health Mission. More than 1 Lakh schools will be covered in the first phase of this programme.

This programme will be popularized through ASHA workers, Adolescent Friendly Health Clinics (AFHCs) and through various existing social and mass media platforms.
