

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2610
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06TH MARCH, 2020**

MENSTRUAL HYGIENE

2610. MS. S. JOTHIMANI:

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

- (a) the details of the various programmes through which the Government is promoting menstrual hygiene in coordination with various Ministries;
- (b) whether adequate funds have been provided by the Government to the States/UTs for the promotion of menstrual hygiene based on the proposals received from the States in their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) under the National Health Mission and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring a bill on paid menstrual leave to women employees, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures being taken to remove the stigma related to menstruation in the society?

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

(a): Government is working to improve menstrual hygiene practices through various Ministries and details of the programme are as follows.

- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is supporting the State/UTs in implementing Scheme for Promotion of Menstrual Hygiene among adolescent girls. The scheme encompasses increasing awareness among adolescent girls on menstrual hygiene, improving access to and use of high sanitary napkins by adolescent girls and ensuring safe disposal of sanitary napkins in an environmentally friendly manner.
- Ministry of Human Resource development (MHRD) through the Department of School Education and Literacy, implementing an integrated scheme for School Education namely Samgra Shiksha. Under Samgra Shiksha, State specific projects for varied interventions on menstrual health and hygiene are sanctioned by the Project Approval board as per the Annual Work Plans proposed by the State/UT concerned which include installation of sanitary pad vending machines and incinerators.

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- Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) is implementing Scheme for Adolescent Girls to improve the nutritional and health status of out of school adolescent girls of age 11-14 years and to upgrade their skills. The scheme is implemented in all the districts for providing nutritional support to the adolescent girls, beside information on health, menstrual hygiene and guidance on existing public services.
- Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has developed National Guidelines on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) with focus on ensuring provision of functional toilets and availability of safe water.
- Department of Pharmaceutical, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers under the Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Pariyojna (PMBJP), Government provides Oxo-biodegradable sanitary napkins named Suvidha. The sanitary napkin is available for Rs. 2.50 per pad to Janaushadhi Kendras across India to ensure 'Swachhta, Swasthya and Suvidha.

(b): The States are provided funds based on the proposal received from the States in their programme implementation plan under National Health Mission. The State/UT wise details are placed at Annexure.

(c): There is no such proposal at present.

(d): Following measures are taken to reduce menstruation related stigma:

- ASHAs across the country are trained and play a significant role in promotion of use and distribution of the sanitary napkins
- Provision of incentives to ASHAs to hold monthly meeting with adolescents to discuss issues related to menstrual hygiene.
- A range of IEC material has been developed to create awareness among adolescent girls about safe & hygienic menstrual health practices which includes audio, video and reading materials for adolescent girls and job-aids for ASHAs and other field level functionaries for communicating with adolescent girls.

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Fund allocation for Menstrual Hygiene Scheme under National Health Mission

S. No.	State	FY-2019-20 (Rs in lakh)
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	NP
2	Andhra Pradesh	NP
3	Arunachal Pradesh	NP
4	Assam	288.62
5	Bihar	957.6
6	Chandigarh	NP
7	Chattisgarh	NP
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	NP
9	Daman & Diu	NP
10	Delhi	72.96
11	Goa	NP
12	Gujarat	NP
13	Haryana	NP
14	Himachal Pradesh	385.17
15	Jammu & Kashmir	NP
16	Jharkhand	NP
17	Karnataka	NP
18	Kerala	119.7
19	Lakshadweep	NP
20	Madhya Pradesh	107.25
21	Maharashtra	100
22	Manipur	116.2
23	Meghalaya	NP
24	Mizoram	NP
25	Nagaland	NP
26	Orissa	382.23
27	Puducherry	36
28	Punjab	NP
29	Rajasthan	3000
30	Sikkim	NP
31	Tamil Nadu	NP
32	Telangana	NP
33	Tripura	5.16
34	Uttar Pradesh	NP
35	Uttarakhand	134.06
36	West Bengal	756.65
All India		6461.6

NP-Not proposed