

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3406
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH MARCH, 2020**

ANEMIA AMONG WOMEN

**3406. SHRI DHARMENDRA KASHYAP:
SHRI RAVIKUMAR D.:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of women particularly pregnant women are suffering from anemia in the country,
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): As per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) - IV (2015-16), 53.1% women aged 15-49 years in the country are anaemic.

Similarly, the prevalence of anemia among pregnant women age 15-49 years is 50.4%.

(b): State-UT wise anemia prevalence for women aged 15-49 years and pregnant women (15-49 years) age group is placed at Annexure-I & II.

(c): Under the National Health Mission (NHM), the steps taken to tackle anaemia are as follows;

1. Anemia Mukht Bharat strategy has been launched for supplementation and treatment of anaemia in children (6-59 months), pre- school children (5-9 years), adolescents girls and boys (10-19 years), pregnant and lactating women and women of reproductive age group (15-49 years) through life cycle approach to prevent and treat micronutrient deficiencies. The six interventions under Anemia Mukht Bharat strategy are as follows:

- Prophylactic Iron Folic Acid Supplementation
- Periodic deworming
- Intensified year-round Behavior Change Communication Campaign including delayed cord clamping
- Testing and Treatment of anemia using digital methods and point of care treatment
- Mandatory provision of Iron Folic Acid fortified foods in public health programmes
- Addressing non-nutritional causes of anemia in endemic pockets, with special focus on Malaria, Hemoglobinopathies and Fluorosis

2. Weekly Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation (WIFS) Programme is being implemented to meet the challenge of high prevalence and incidence of anaemia amongst adolescent girls and boys. The intervention under WIFS include supervised weekly ingestion of Iron Folic Acid (IFA) tablet (each IFA tablet contains 100mg elemental iron and 500µg folic acid) for 52 weeks in a year. To control worm infestation biannual de-worming with Albendazole 400mg is done, six months apart.
3. Health management information system & Mother Child tracking system is being implemented for reporting and tracking the cases of anaemic and severely anaemic pregnant women.
4. Universal screening of pregnant women for anemia is a part of ante-natal care and every pregnant women is given 180 tablets of iron and folic acid after the first trimester, to be taken 1 tablet daily for 6 months and same is continued during the post-natal period (till 180 days). Pregnant women who are found to be clinically anemic, are given two tablets daily.
5. To address anaemia due to worm infestation, deworming of pregnant women is done after first trimester preferably in second trimester of pregnancy.
6. Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA) has been launched to focus on conducting special ANC check up on 9th of every month with the help of Medical officers/ Obstetrics and gynecologists to detect and treat cases of anemia.
7. Operationalization of Blood Bank in District Hospitals and Blood Storage Unit in Sub district facilities is being taken to tackle complications due to severe anemia.
8. To tackle the problem of anemia due to malaria particularly in pregnant women and children, Long Lasting Insecticide Nets (LLINs) and Insecticide Treated Bed Nets (ITBNs) are being distributed in endemic areas.
9. MCP Card and Safe Motherhood Booklet is being distributed to the pregnant women for educating them on dietary diversification and promotion of consumption of IFA.
10. Health and nutrition education through IEC & BCC to promote dietary diversification, inclusion of iron folate rich food as well as food items that promotes iron absorption. IEC material in the form of posters, hoardings, wall-writings and audio-visuals have been developed & disseminated to the States/UTs to promote prevention of anemia.

Annexure: I

NFHS-IV Anaemia prevalence among women age 15-49 years:

Sr No	State	Any anaemia (<12 gm/dl)
1	Dadra And Nagar Haveli	79.5
2	Chandigarh	75.3
3	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	65.9
4	Jharkhand	65.2
5	Haryana	62.7
6	West Bengal	62.5
7	Bihar	60.3
8	Andhra Pradesh	61.1
9	Daman And Diu	58.9
10	Telangana	56.6
11	Meghalaya	56.2
12	Tamil Nadu	55.0
13	Gujarat	54.9
14	Tripura	54.5
15	Delhi	54.3
16	Punjab	53.5
17	Himachal Pradesh	53.5
18	Madhya Pradesh	52.5
19	Puducherry	52.4
20	Uttar Pradesh	52.4
21	Odisha	51.0
22	Jammu And Kashmir	49.4
23	Maharashtra	48.0
24	Chhattisgarh	47.0
25	Rajasthan	46.8
26	Assam	46.0
27	Lakshadweep	46.0
28	Uttarakhand	45.2
29	Karnataka	44.8
30	Arunachal Pradesh	43.2
31	Sikkim	34.9
32	Kerala	34.3
33	Goa	31.3
34	Nagaland	27.9
35	Manipur	26.4
36	Mizoram	24.8
	All India	53.1

Annexure-II

NFHS-IV: Anaemia prevalence among Pregnant women age 15-49 years who are anaemic (<11.0 g/dl) (%)

Sr No	State	Anaemia (<11.0 g/dl)
1	A&N Islands	61.4
2	Andhra Pradesh	52.9
3	Arunachal Pradesh	37.8
4	Assam	44.8
5	Bihar	58.3
6	Chandigarh	*
7	Chhattisgarh*	41.5
8	D & N Haveli	67.9
9	Daman & Diu	*
10	Delhi	46.1
11	Goa	26.7
12	Gujarat	51.3
13	Haryana	55
14	HP	50.4
15	J &K	47.5
16	Jharkhand	62.6
17	Karnataka	45.4
18	Kerala	22.6
19	Lakshadweep	39
20	Maharashtra	49.3
21	Manipur	26
22	Meghalaya	53.3
23	Mizoram	27
24	MP	54.6
25	Nagaland	32.7
26	Odisha	47.6
27	Puducherry	27.8
28	Punjab	42
29	Rajasthan	46.6
30	Sikkim	23.6
31	Tamil Nadu	44.4
32	Telangana	48.2
33	Tripura	54.4
34	UP	51
35	Uttarakhand	46.5
36	WB	53.6
	All India	50.4