

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS**

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3309  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

**Suvidha Sanitary Napkins**

**3309. SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU:**

Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken by the Government to increase awareness among the public regarding the availability of Suvidha sanitary napkins at subsidized prices at Janaushadhi Kendras;
- (b) whether the Government has any plan to increase the production of Suvidha sanitary napkins and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of safeguards being observed to maintain quality standards in respect of Suvidha sanitary napkins;
- (d) the details of units/centres established for availability of suvidha napkins, State-wise including in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) the details of units/centres established for availability of suvidha napkins in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI D.V. SADANANADA GOWDA)**

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(a) Janaushadhi Suvidha Oxo-Biodegradable Sanitary Napkin Suvidha sanitary napkins were introduced under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) @ Rs. 2.50 per pad in the year 2018. The price per pad has since been reduced to Rs.1/-. Till date, more than 11 crore pads have been sold at more than 7,500 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs). The awareness about the Scheme, including Janaushadhi Suvidha Oxo-Biodegradable Sanitary Napkins, is spread through advertisements in Print, Radio, TV, Cinema halls as well as outdoor publicity like Hoardings, Bus Queue Shelter branding, Bus branding, Auto wrapping, etc. The social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, etc. are also widely used for spreading awareness.

(b) The government is geared up to meet the demand of sanitary napkins throughout the country. Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI), the implementing agency of PMBJP has entered into rate contract with four vendors for procurement of approx. 15 crore pads per annum. This quantity is tentative and can be increased as per the demand of Suvidha Sanitary Napkins.

(c) Janaushadhi Suvidha Sanitary Napkins are environmentally friendly. These pads are made with Oxo-biodegradable material complying with ASTM D-6954 (biodegradability test) standards and pH of absorbent material complying with IS:5405-1980 standards.

(d) Suvidha Sanitary Napkins are available in all Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) functional across the country including Andhra Pradesh. As on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, 7507 PMBJKs are functional covering all the districts of the country. State/UT- wise list of PMBJKs functional is enclosed as **Annexure**.

(e) As on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, 4 PMBJKs are functional in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh. Suvidha Sanitary Napkins are available for sale in these Kendras.

**Annexure**

**Statement referred to in Reply to part (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 3309 for 16.03.2021 raised by SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU regarding Suvidha Sanitary Napkins**

<b>State/UT wise list of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras functional across the country as on 10.03.2021</b>		
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the State/UT</b>	<b>Number of PMBJK functional</b>
1	Andaman & Nicobar	1
2	Andhra Pradesh	178
3	Arunachal Pradesh	28
4	Assam	77
5	Bihar	222
6	Chandigarh	7
7	Chhattisgarh	229
8	Delhi	291
9	Goa	9
10	Gujarat	508
11	Haryana	200
12	Himachal Pradesh	58
13	Jammu And Kashmir	90
14	Jharkhand	70
15	Karnataka	868
16	Kerala	744
17	Ladakh	3
18	Lakshadweep*	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	216
20	Maharashtra	566
21	Manipur	32
22	Meghalaya	14
23	Mizoram	22
24	Nagaland	15
25	Odisha	267
26	Puducherry	16
27	Punjab	275
28	Rajasthan	114
29	Sikkim	3
30	Tamil Nadu	773
31	Telangana	141
32	The Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	31

33	Tripura	24
34	Uttar Pradesh	1058
35	Uttarakhand	201
36	West Bengal	156
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>7507</b>

\* Medicines are directly supplied to the administration of Union Territory of Lakshwadeep