

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3971
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH March, 2021**

ANEMIA AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN

3971. SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA:

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

- (a) whether the WHO has expressed concern on anemia among pregnant women in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has ascertained the status of anaemia among pregnant women in different parts of the country and if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise along with the steps taken by the Government to address this situation; and
- (c) the other steps taken by the Government to deal with the dismal performance of some States in tackling anemia cases, including Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Jharkhand?

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

(a) to (c): As per National Family Health Survey-IV (2015-16), anaemia prevalence among the pregnant women in the country is at 50.4%. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines on anaemia, prevalence of 40% and above is considered as a severe public health problem for a country.

As per recently released National Family Health Survey-V (2019-20) Phase-I data in respect of 22 States and UTs, the State/UT-wise prevalence of anaemia in pregnant women is placed at Annexure. Five (5) States/ UTs namely Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya and Jammu and Kashmir have anaemia prevalence less than 40%

In 2018, the Government of India has launched the Anaemia Mukht Bharat (AMB) strategy under POSHAN Abhiyaan with the target for reducing anaemia in women, children and adolescents in life cycle approach. The strategy aims to cover children 6-59 months, children 5-9 years, adolescents 10-19 years, women of reproductive age (15-49 years) pregnant women and lactating women through newer interventions implemented via robust institutional mechanisms. It focuses on strengthening supply chain, demand generation and putting in place monitoring mechanisms using the dashboard for addressing anaemia.

In addition, following activities are undertaken in the States and UTs, including Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Jharkhand for tackling anaemia cases-

- Iron and Folic Acid supplementation to the pregnant women during ANC.
- Providing incentives to front line workers for identification and follow-up of pregnant women with severe anaemia.
- Training and orientation of medical officers and staff nurses of health facilities on the Anaemia Mukta Bharat guidelines.
- Field level awareness by ASHAs through community mobilization activities and IEC and BCC activities focused on anaemia in pregnant women.
- Screening for anaemia in areas endemic for hemoglobinopathies and malaria.

Anaemia Prevalence among Pregnant Women

Source: NFHS-V (2019-20) Phase-1

Sr No	State	Any anaemia (less than 11 gm/dl)
1	A&N Islands	54.2
2	Andhra Pradesh	63.1
3	Assam	60.7
4	Bihar	41
5	Dadra Nagar Haveli	62.6
6	Goa	42.2
7	Gujarat	45.7
8	Himachal Pradesh	31.4
9	Karnataka	45.7
10	Kerala	32.4
11	Maharashtra	45
12	Manipur	34
13	Meghalaya	22.3
14	Mizoram	53.2
15	Nagaland	61.5
16	Telangana	62.3
17	Tripura	44.1
18	West Bengal	78.1
19	Jammu Kashmir	20.9
20	Ladakh	40.7
21	Lakshawdeep	54.2
22	Sikkim	63.1