GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4031 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2022

Health Facilities in Schools

4031. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the lack of health facilities including physical and mental health in the schools in the country and if so, the details of the number of schools those are having these facilities and those not having;
- (b) whether the Government is considering for the proposal of setting up of health clinics at the school premises, which deal with both physical and mental health of students and if so, the details thereof and if not, the other interventions to address this issue;
- (c) the details of the States in which this model is being executed as of now, across the country and type of services offered for students in the schools; and
- (d) the details of the money allocated and spent on this aspect from the year 2018- 2022, State-wise?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d): Under Ayushman Bharat, the School Health and Wellness Programme was launched to provide activity based, health related education to school-going children in order to empower them and make them realise their full potential. It also aims to position Ayushman Bharat - Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWC) as a point of contact for adolescents. The service delivery framework under the Ayushman Bharat-School Health & Wellness Programme are at various levels including school level which involve two teachers preferably one male and one female in every school designated as Health and Wellness Ambassadors (HWAs). These Ambassadors support students for accessing adolescent friendly health services at AB-HWCs or Adolescent Friendly Health Clinics (AFHCs) and follow up care. Under Ayushman Bharat, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has developed a comprehensive package titled "Training and Resource Material: Health and Wellness of School-going Children.

The Ministry of Education has undertaken a proactive initiative, named, 'Manodarpan', covering a wide range of activities to provide psychosocial support to students, teachers and families for Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing during the COVID outbreak and beyond. A Working Group, having experts from the fields of education, mental health and psychosocial issues as its members, has been set up to monitor and promote the mental health issues and concerns of students and to facilitate providing of support to address the mental health and psychosocial aspects during and after COVID-19, through counselling services, online resources and helpline.

In addition, realizing the need for holistic development of children, under the Samagra Shiksha, Sports and Physical Education component has also been introduced for encouragement of Sports, Physical activities, Yoga, Co-curricular activities etc. A provision has been made for Government schools for grant for sports equipments at the rate of Rs. 5000 for Primary Schools, Rs. 10,000 for upper primary schools and up to Rs. 25,000 for secondary and senior secondary schools per annum.
