

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION 5646
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.04.2025**

SAFE MENSTRUAL HYGIENE

5646. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:

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

- (a) the total number of girls as per the last National Family Health Survey using safe menstrual hygiene products in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government distributes free or subsidized sanitary napkins in rural areas of country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the rural areas covered in Odisha in 2024?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a): The details of the State/ UT wise National Family Health Survey 5 data on safe use of menstrual hygiene products for girls aged 15-19 years is placed at the **Annexure**.

(b): Ministry of Health and Family Welfare implements the 'Scheme for Promotion of Menstrual Hygiene' aimed at promoting menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls aged 10–19 years. The scheme implementation promotes increased awareness among adolescent girls on menstrual hygiene, increased access to sanitary napkins by adolescent girls and promotion of safe disposal of sanitary napkins in an environmentally friendly manner. Under this scheme, packs of six sanitary napkins are provided to adolescent girls by ASHAs using the platforms of schools and community.

Additionally, under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP), the government launched the 'Jan Aushadhi Suvidha' sanitary napkins, available at ₹1 per pad, to ensure affordable access to menstrual hygiene products.

(c): As per information received from the State of Odisha, it implements the "KHUSI" programme, providing sanitary napkins free of cost to 17.8 lakh school-going adolescent girls (Classes 6–12) in all government-aided schools. For the out-of-school adolescent girls (10–19 years), ASHAs distribute sanitary napkins at subsidized rates through social marketing under the Menstrual Hygiene Scheme of RKSK, ensuring access across both rural and urban areas to promote better menstrual hygiene.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5646 for answer on 04.04.2025

Annexure

Percentage (%) of Girls aged 15-19 years who use hygienic methods of protection during their menstrual period as per NFHS5, State/UT-wise	
States/ UTs	NFHS5
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	NA
Andhra Pradesh	89.1
Arunachal Pradesh	92.1
Assam	68.5
Bihar	59.3
Chandigarh	NA
Chhattisgarh	70.7
Delhi	97.6
DNH& DD	NA
Goa	98.3
Gujarat	66.2
Haryana	93.1
Himachal Pradesh	92.7
J&K	73.8
Jharkhand	77.1
Karnataka	57.7
Kerala	93.6
Ladakh	NA
Lakshwadeep	NA
Madhya Pradesh	60.5
Maharashtra	85.7
Manipur	84.7
Meghalaya	65
Mizoram	89.8
Nagaland	78.2
Puducherry	NA
Punjab	94
Odisha	85.5
Rajasthan	85.8
Sikkim	87.5
Tamilnadu	98.7
Telangana	95
Tripura	73.5
Uttarakhand	91.5
Uttar Pradesh	70.5
West Bengal	86.6

*NA-UT data for 15-19years of girls not available