

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.1954
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2021

MENSTRUAL HYGIENE AMONG ADOLESCENT GIRLS

1954. SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched any initiatives to ensure menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including campaigns, if any, to increase awareness and access to hygiene products;
- (c) the amount of funds allocated and used for the said initiatives/ campaigns, State/ UT-wise including Odisha;
- (d) whether the Government has introduced schemes to increase access to hygiene products by decreasing the price; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (e): Government is working to improve menstrual hygiene practices through various Ministries. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MHFW) has been implementing the Scheme for Promotion of Menstrual Hygiene among adolescent girls in the age group of 10-19 years as part of the Reproductive Child Health programme since 2011 and later under the Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram. The major objectives of the scheme are to increase awareness among adolescent girls on menstrual hygiene, to increase access to and use of high quality sanitary napkins by adolescent girls and to ensure safe disposal of sanitary napkins in an environmentally friendly manner. Since 2015-16, the procurement of sanitary napkins and IEC/ BCC activities for menstrual hygiene are being supported by National Health Mission through the State Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) route based on the proposals received from States and UTs. States/ UTs have decentralized procurement of sanitary napkins for ensuring quality standards. The details of funds allocated for promotion of menstrual hygiene under the National Health Mission by MHFW State/ UT wise, including Odisha, is placed at **Annexure**.

Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has developed National Guidelines on Menstrual Hygiene Management (NHM) with focus on ensuring provision of functional toilets and availability of safe water.

Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers of Government of India under the Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janausadhi Pariyojna (PMBJP), provides low cost hygienic oxy-biodegradable sanitary napkins named as Suidha. The price of the sanitary pads has been reduced from Rs. 4.00 per pad on launch to Rs 1.00 per pad, which is available for sale in more than 7,900 PMBJP Kendras across the country to ensure 'Swachhta, Swasthya and Suidha for the underprivileged women of India.

Annexure

Menstrual Hygiene Scheme- NHM Budget approvals for the FY 2021-22 (in Rs lakhs)

S.No	States	Budget Approved (in Rs lakhs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	1996.19
2	Assam	151.2
3	Chhattisgarh	196.51
4	Delhi	91.2
5	Goa	11.34
6	Himachal Pradesh	99.45
7	Kerala	119.7
8	Ladakh	36
9	Lakshadweep	7.92
10	Manipur	116.24
11	Nagaland	5.69
12	Odisha	1323.12
13	Puducherry	36
14	Punjab	1033.4
15	Rajasthan	1500
16	Sikkim	2.42
17	Telangana	214.8
18	Tripura	58.19
19	West Bengal	932.55
Total		7931.92
