Regarding treatment of Anaemia among women? laid

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH (KAKINADA): According to the National Family Health Survey 5 (NFHS-5), 67.1% children between the ages of 6 and 59 months, 56.5% women between the ages of 15 and 19 in rural areas and 60.2 % in urban areas are anaemic. 52.2 % of pregnant women between the ages of 15 and 49 years are anaemic. Anaemia among adolescent girls (59.1%) advances to maternal anaemia causing maternal and infant mortality. Anaemia lowers physical as well as cognitive growth along with alertness among children and adolescents impacting their future potential as productive citizens. Government has been working relentlessly towards lowering cases of anaemia through Anaemia Mukt Bharat programme, regularly testing pregnant women for anaemia and providing them with Iron and Folic acid supplements. However, wider approach is required to fight current levels of anaemia. I would request the Hon'ble Minister of Women and Child Development to introduce testing and treatment of anaemia using digital methods with special focus on school-going adolescents. Intake of iron-rich food can be increased by introducing Iron fortified foods in Public Health Programmes using locally available resources. Nutritional Deficiency must be considered as an important indicator by the Government for addressing the situation in a timely manner.