

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:650

ANSWERED ON:11.05.2005

VANDE MATARAM SCHEME

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Government had launched the Vande Mataram Scheme in the country on February 9, 2004;
- (b) if so, the objectives thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has made any preliminary assessment of the performance of the Vande Mataram Scheme;
- (d) if so, the extent to which it is helpful in reducing the maternal mortality, morbidity of the pregnant and expectant mothers; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to make Vande Mataram Scheme more effective?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.650 FOR 11TH MAY, 2005

The Vande Mataram Scheme is a voluntary scheme launched on 9th February, 2004, under the auspices of Federation of Obstetric and Gynecological Society of India (FOGSI) and private clinics. The objective of the scheme is to reduce the maternal mortality and morbidity of the pregnant and expectant mothers by involving the vast resources and specialist/trained workforce available in the private sector for providing obstetric care. The scheme also focuses on improving the acceptance and access to Family Planning methods through improved family planning counseling during both ante-natal and post-natal check up.

The scheme is a purely voluntary scheme. FOGSI have appealed to its members to provide for free OPD services for Ante-natal and Post-natal check up for pregnant women & family planning services on 9th of every month, free of cost and to refer such women who require treatment for any complications, if necessary, to pre-identified referral centers.

The scheme is being coordinated by FOGSI. As per information made available by FOGSI, 1653 volunteer doctors are providing services under the scheme. In addition, as per information received from 69 districts and 492 Nursing Homes/Maternity Homes have been enrolled and are providing free check up under the scheme.

Instructions have been issued to all State Governments to facilitate voluntary doctors by providing them with free Vande Mataram boards for their clinics, create awareness in the community about the scheme and about the voluntary doctors and also to provide Iron Folic Acid Tablets, Injection Tetanus Toxoid, Condoms and Oral Pills etc. for free distribution to the patients who attend the clinics of these doctors on the 9th of every month. These items are to be provided by the District Administrations from out of the funds and drugs available with them under the Reproductive & Child Health (RCH) Programme.