

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:614
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2016
Prevention of Anaemia and Thalassemia
Sahu Shri Lakhan Lal

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

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to start any programme to prevent Anaemia and Thalassemia in all parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps likely to be taken for this purpose;
- (c) whether the Government provides financial assistance to State Governments to prevent Anaemia and Thalassemia; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a & b): Public Health is a state subject. However under National Health Mission, Government of India has taken steps to control and prevent Anaemia and Thalassemia by supporting the programs through state PIPs (Program Implementation Plans). Considering the burden and the cost inherent to manage the disease, a comprehensive Guideline for Haemoglobinopathies which include Thalassemia and other genetic blood disorders has been disseminated to the States to initiate the prevention and management of Haemoglobinopathies. This includes management of the disease, screening of vulnerable population, awareness campaign and dissemination of information about the disorders etc.

A countrywide National Iron Plus Initiative (NIPI) was launched in 2013. This is a flagship scheme under the National Health Mission based on life-cycle approach, under which Iron-Folic Acid supplementation is provided to various age groups including pregnant and lactating mothers. It covers children from 6 months to 19 years including school girls and school drop outs.

Besides this , steps have been taken to tackle anaemia in pregnant and lactating women under National Health Mission like

- Universal screening of pregnant women for Anaemia as a part of ante-natal care and all pregnant women are provided with iron and folic acid tablets during their ante-natal visits through the wide network of existing health facilities including outreach activities at Village/Urban Health & Nutrition Days (VHNDs/UHNDs).

- Through PMSMA (Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan), Anaemic pregnant mothers are identified as a part of high risk pregnancies by a focused Antenatal Care on 9th of every month and suitable care and management is provided to them.

- Identification of anaemic mothers and children and tracking them for better management is being done through MCTS (Mother and Child Tracking System) and HMIS (Health Management Information System)

- IEC and BCC (Behavioral Change Counseling) are used to disseminate proper guidance for nutritious and iron rich diet.

- Special impetus is provided to 184 High Priority Districts in this regard

(c) & (d): The Government of India provides financial support to the States, at a ratio of 60:40 (and 90:10 to the selected group of states) to strengthen their health care systems to control and prevent Anaemia and blood disorders like Thalassemia based on the proposals submitted by the State/UT Governments in their Programme Implementation Plans. The details for funds allocation for different Haemoglobinopathies are annexed at Annexure

Similarly, Funds for procurement of Iron-Folic Acid for various age groups and for capacity building under NIPI programme are provided through state RoPs (Request of Proceedings). Financial assistance for procurement of IFA tablet for pregnant /lactating mothers and children is also given to States under Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) budget in RoPs.