

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2240  
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2017  
Anaemia among Youth  
Dhruvanarayana Shri Rangaswamy

**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 a high percentage of youth in the country are anaemic;
- (b) if so, the details of the facts reported therein State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any effective steps to bring down iron deficiency among the young population in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)

(a) & (b): According to National Family Health Survey -3 (NFHS-3) data, the prevalence of anaemia amongst adolescents aged 15-19 years among girls is 55.8% and among boys is 30.2%. The State-wise details are at annexure.

(c) & (d): The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India under National Health Mission in collaboration with Ministry of Women and Child and Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing Weekly Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation (WIFS) across the country, with the objective of reducing the prevalence and severity of nutritional anaemia in adolescents.

The Target beneficiaries of the programme are:

Adolescent girls and boys enrolled in government/government aided/municipal schools from 6th to 12th classes and Adolescent Girls (10-19 years) who are not in school.

The strategy includes:

- a. Administration of Weekly Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation (WIFS) - Each IFA tablet containing 100mg elemental iron and 500µg folic acid for 52 weeks in a year.
- b. Screening of target groups - for moderate/severe anaemia and referring these cases to an appropriate health facility.
- c. Biannual de-worming (Albendazole 400mg) - six months apart, for control of worm infestation.
- d. Information and counselling - for improving dietary intake and for taking actions for prevention of intestinal worm infestation.