

Recognition for acupuncture

2338. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the acupuncture in treatment of several common ailments is already approved by WHO, and moreover as a drugless therapy, it is most cost effective, eco-friendly and without any side effects; and

(b) if so, the reason for not giving recognition to such a beneficial and cost effective therapy which may be used as a boon for Government as well as common people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) and (b) Acupuncture is already recognised as a mode of therapy by the Government of India *vide* order No. R.14015/25/96-U&H (R) (Pt.) dated 25th November, 2003 and can be practiced by registered practitioners or appropriately trained personnel.

Menstrual Hygiene Scheme in rural India

2339. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of girls in rural India sighting menstruation as the cause of dropping out of school and the details thereof;

(b) the number of girls in rural India who do not go to school during their periods for lack of clean and affordable protection and the details thereof;

(c) the number of women who cannot afford sanitary napkins and the details thereof; and

(d) the State-wise usage of funds utilised under the Menstrual Hygiene Scheme of the National Health Mission, out of the total monetary outlay, and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) to (c) There is no National level survey data available on this.

(d) The details for the F/Y 2017-18 are given in the Statement.