As you are aware, substantial progress has been made in improving the health of children and mothers since last decade. Now, it is imperative to capitalize on the gains made through successful child and maternal interventions by investing in the health of Adolescents. Moreover, it is also noted that promoting and protecting adolescent health will lead to better health, economic and demographic benefits.

Substantial evidence indicates that schools play a crucial role in improving the health of this population by establishing lifelong healthy behaviors. Thus, Department of School Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare developed a joint initiative to improve the health of school children under AYUSHMAN BHARAT which was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on April 14, 2018 in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh.

Under this programme, two teachers in every school will be declared as “Health and Wellness Ambassador” and these Health and Wellness Ambassadors will transact weekly health promotion and disease prevention information in the form of interactive activities. A curriculum is being prepared in consultation with NCERT on the topics of life skills, value education, nutrition, sexual and reproductive health, mental health, injuries and violence, substance misuse, communicable & non-communicable diseases and social media.

Operational guidelines detailing the implementation framework have been developed and are enclosed for your reference. You are requested to use these guidelines for implementing the programme in your State/UT preferably across all High Priority Districts beginning with Aspirational Districts and propose budget for the same in Supplementary PIP 2018-19.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Manoj Jhalani)

Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary / Secretary (Health & Family Welfare) of all States / UTs