

Annexure I

Government of India has been implementing the national Adolescent Health Programme (Rastriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram-RKSK) since 2014. The programme has worked to expand the scope of adolescent health programming in India-besides sexual and reproductive health, it also includes in its ambit nutrition, injuries and violence (including gender-based violence), non-communicable diseases, mental health and substance misuse.

The programme has been strengthened in such a way that it has universal coverage of the 10-19 population including the LGBTQI and GNC, ensuring access and affordability of acceptable, non-judgmental, nondiscriminatory and empathetic service provision by trained health care service providers as Counsellors and Medical Officers, irrespective of the gender identity or sexual orientation of the adolescent client. Data collected under the programme is disaggregated on the basis of age, sex, marital status, however, collection on basis of sexual orientation and gender identity is not currently initiated.

On the issue of age appropriate CSE inclusive of the sexual and gender diversity in educational institutions, India is proudly implementing the School Health & Wellness Programme (launched in Feb 2020) in government and government aided schools of the country as a co-owned and co-partnered intervention of both the Ministries of Health and Education. Two teachers, preferably one male and one female, in every school, designated as “Health and Wellness Ambassadors” are being trained to transact health promotion and disease prevention information on select thematic areas in the form of interesting activities every week to promote joyful learning. Themes of Growing up, Interpersonal Relationships, Reproductive Health and Gender Equality adequately covers the genuine concerns of the growing school children and adolescents related to sexual and reproductive health and also sensitizes them to the issues of gender and sexuality.
