

1	B.V.NAGARATHINA AND J.M.KHAZI	22/04/2021	<p>In response to the directions issued by this Court on 20.04.2021, Learned Additional Government Advocate has filed a memo enclosing a communication dated 21.04.2021 issued by the Deputy Director, R.B.S.K, R.K.S.K and Health and Family Welfare Services, Arogya Soudha addressed to the Additional Director, (Programmes) Samagra Shikshana Karnataka, Bengaluru with regard to the time schedule for implementation of the plan of action under SHUCHI SCHEME.</p> <p>Learned Additional Government Advocate submitted that by the end of April 2021 the technical committee would be meeting and in the month of May 2021, the administrative approval will be sought and within 90 days thereafter the procurement shall be made.</p> <p>Learned Additional Government Advocate further submitted that in the event schools are closed, there would be community based door to door distribution through the health workers, but if the</p>
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schools re-open then the distribution of the hygiene products shall be made to the adolescent girls in the schools themselves.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the State ought to adhere to the time schedule now placed before this Court and ensure that the SHUCHI SCHEME is implemented in time as it is a Scheme in support of adolescent girls who are identified as being 17,06,933 in number throughout the State and distribution of the said products shall be made in right earnest.

We take on record the memo filed by the learned Additional Government Advocate and the communication dated 21.04.2021.

We reiterate that plan of action under SHUCHI SCHEME shall be implemented by the State for adolescent girls between the age group of 10-19 years, as the same is an aid to the empowerment of such adolescent girls particularly

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residing in rural and remote places, traveling from the villages to the Taluk headquarters or District headquarters for their education. They ought not to miss attendance in the school on certain days of the month on account of lack of effective hygiene products being available to them on certain days of the month. In addition, if separate toilets are provided to girl students in Government and aided schools, it would be enhancing their health, hygiene and privacy. As a result it would ensure full attendance of the adolescent girls in the schools and their right to education would be fulfilled.

In the circumstances, State is directed to comply with the time schedule that it is enunciated in the communication dated 21.04.2021 referred to above and place on record a status report on the progress made by the next date of hearing.

List on 31.05.2021 for the purpose of filing of status report till the said date, with regard to the implementation of the SHUCHI SCHEME.

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