

Now underprivileged women can also afford sanitary napkins

The Overview

Babylon Products



a double boon to poor women

- women's menstruation is a matter still associated with taboo and discrimination. In some areas, women are still considered "unclean" during menstruation and are forbidden from entering the kitchen.
- Deal with Menstrual Hygiene is considered as "an act of shame"
- Superstitions create reproductive tract infections that posed a grave threat to women
- Study reveals that girls and adult women are absent from work and school in developing countries up to 50 days a year simply because they do not have access to affordable sanitary pads.

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- Unavoidable but unaffordable
- Rags, jhute, etc are traditional and common materials for menstrual hygiene
- create awareness about hygiene among women in less-privileged sections of society
- Affordable napkin encourages young girls / women to keep up their attendance in school & workplace
- Give women more freedom to go out.

Machines & Materials

Machines

- De-Fib ration
- Core formation
- Soft-touch sealing
- UV Sterilization and Packaging

Materials

- Wood Pulp
- Non-Woven top layer
- Inner poly
- Gum
- Release paper

Stage 1 – De-fibration



Duration: 1 - 2 minutes

Tools & Material

- A stainless steel container with a lid
- A small motor that whips the international-grade raw-material
- Works like a "mixie"

Operation

- The cellulose raw-material is put into the container and the lid is closed
- The motor is run for a few minutes

End result

- The compressed core material becomes fluffy and uniform
- The material is ready to be made into napkins.

Stage 2 – Core formation

Duration: 0.5 minute

Tools & Material

- A napkin-shaped mould.
- Hand- or leg-operated lever.
- A spring-loaded press.

Operation

- The core material is spread within the mould by hand
- The mould is properly positioned
- The lever is pulled manually and this compresses the core material
- The mould is removed

End result

- The core of the napkin is formed
- This core is ready for use in the next stage

Stage 3 – Soft-touch sealing



Duration: 0.5 minute

Tools & Material

- Heat-sealing press to seal the length and the ends of the napkin.
- Lights and sound to indicate end of operation.

Operation

- The core is wrapped in an outer cover and sealed along its length by pulling the heatsealing press.
- The ends of the napkin are sealed similarly.

End result

- The napkin is ready.
- Quality comparable to the multinational napkin.

Post-production

UV Sterilization and Packaging



Duration: 1 minute

Tools & Material

- U V Unit that is in the shape of a microwave.
- Plastic sealing equipment.

Operation

- The finished napkin is placed within the UV Unit to ensure utmost hygiene.
- That done, the quality of the napkins is checked before they are packed in Branded covers.
- The covers are heat sealed.

End result

The napkin packets are **ready for sale**.

It does cost money, but...



Good menstrual hygiene is cheaper in the long run!

- → Save money on repeated treatment and visits to doctor
- → Increased productivity (or 'can work more' or something like that)
 - Your body deserves to be cared for!
- → increase mental well-being and comfort



Financials

Base Investment – Capital

Description	Cost in Taka
Cost of machine	200,000.00
Electronic Weighing Machine	7,500.00
UV Sterilizer	25,000.00
Packet sealing machine	5,000.00
Total Cost (Initial Investment)	2,37,500.00

Financials

contd.

Unit owner – financials	
Cost of Raw material	Taka 22.00 pkt
Weight of napkin sizes produced	8 grams pc
Packet of napkins produced per month	$100 \times 26 = 2600 \text{ pkts.}$
Number of workers employed	3 (full time workers)
Power & misc expenses per month	Taka 2.00 pkts
Cost per napkin (all inclusive)	Taka 24.00
Selling price per packet (containing 10 napkins)	Taka 30.00
Net Income per month (average)	Taka 15,600

Advantages & Benefits

Advantages:

- Already a proven business model
- Anybody can manufacture the napkins!
- Only women can do that
- they too can become entrepreneurs
- simple hand-operated machines
- The model is deliberately low-tech and decentralized,
- providing employment opportunities for women in remote parts

Benefits:

- 3-10 women can find employment in a single unit
- Makes an essential commodity available to all:
 - Better hygiene leads to better health.
 - Dignity becomes affordable!
- Indirect impact—
 - Improves socioeconomic indicators.
 - Creates close-knit communities.
 - women can form co-operatives and generate some income as well.



Thank You