

## <u>Indian Standard IS 17454:2020 - Guidelines and General</u> <u>Requirement of Sanitary Napkin Vending Machine</u>

Sanitary napkin vending machines are stand-alone self-service vending machines filled with sanitary napkins. They can be seen in many offices. They are installed at different places to ensure hassle-free access to sanitary napkins for all sections of society. The primary aim is to provide hygiene-related basic facilities to women. These machines provide easy access to sanitary napkins, especially in public places like schools, colleges, workplaces, malls, airports, etc. This ensures that women have access to menstrual hygiene products when needed, regardless of the time or location.

The Indian Standard, **IS 17454:2020**, provides guidelines and general requirements for sanitary napkin vending machines. It details specifications for the machines, including size, weight, materials, and design considerations for durability and usability. The standard specifies the vending mechanism, operating conditions, maintenance instructions, and safety features. It also mandates clear labeling and packaging requirements, ensuring machines operate effectively under varied atmospheric conditions. Furthermore, it emphasises the importance of providing user manuals and warranty details while encouraging compliance with referenced Indian standards.

The standard focuses on ensuring the mechanical and electrical reliability of sanitary napkin vending machines. Specifications for materials include minimum thickness requirements for structural components to enhance durability. The vending mechanism is designed to accommodate various payment methods, including digital and cash transactions. Safety features also include voltage fluctuation protection, secure electrical wiring, and the absence of sharp edges to prevent user injuries. Compliance with safety regulations is emphasised, ensuring machines are **secure and easy to use** for all consumers.