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Title: Need to take steps to eradicate malnutrition in Odisha -laid. .

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR):

Odisha is battling serious malnutrition crisis, especially in rural areas. As per findings of National Family Health Survey(NFHS)-4, the total number of under-five children in Odisha suffering from severe wasting has increased from 5.2 per cent to 6.4 per cent in the last 10 years. The people belonging to the Scheduled Tribe (23 per cent) and Scheduled Caste (17 per cent) are the worst victims of perpetual poverty and marginalisation.

There has been 25 per cent increase in outlay of Rs. 35,600 crore in 2020-21 for nutrition related programmes like Poshan Abhiyan. But Odisha must utilise allocated funds because this kind of investment in nutrition will help tackle severe acute malnourishment in the State. This will also address various Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of Odisha.

I request Central Government to take necessary steps so that menace of malnutrition may be eradicated in Odisha.