

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2967

ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004

DEATH OF CHILDREN DUE TO MALNUTRITION

Bais Shri Ramesh;Modi Shri Sushil Kumar;Singh Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that thousands of children died due to malnutrition in the country during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the years 2003 and 2004 till July 15, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government had conducted an inquiry to find out the reasons for the untimely death of children on large scale; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)to(d): The details of number of child deaths due to malnutrition are not being centrally maintained. Malnutrition is a multi-faceted problem and is not a direct cause of death in children but it can increase morbidity and mortality by reducing the resistance to infections.