

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:841
ANSWERED ON:12.11.2010
ADOLESCENT GIRLS
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of adolescent girls in the country are suffering from severe malnutrition;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has an proposal to improve the Rajiv Gandhi Scheme of Adolescent Girls (SABLA) to address the problem;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) to (d) : The National Family Health Survey (NFHS 3), 2005-06 shows that more than one third (35-6%) of women of age 15-49 years have Body Mass Index (BMI) less than 18.5 kg/m and are undernourishment, amongst Adolescent Girls (AGs) in the age group of 11-18 years separately is not available.

The Government has approved implementation of Rajiv Gandhi Scheme of Adolescent Girls (SABLA) on pilot basis in 200 districts selected across the country. The scheme aims at empowering AGs of 11-18 years by improving their nutritional and health status and upgrading various skills like home skills, life skills and vocational skills.

For nutrition, an integrated package of services under SABLA includes, nutrition provision of 600 calories and 18-20 gram of protein, @ Rs. 5/- per beneficiary per day for 300 days in a year for 11 to 14 years out of school girls and for all girls in the age of 15 to 18 years.

An allocation of Rs. 400 crore has been made for the scheme in 2010-11. Nearly 100 lakh AGs per annum are expected to be benefited under the scheme in the country.