

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4053

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2010

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MALNUTRITION AND ANAEMIA

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

- (a) whether as per the National Family Health Survey Report, 70 per cent children are suffering from malnutrition and anaemia in the country;
- (b) the percentage of anaemic and malnourished children across the country, State-wise; and
- (c) the corrective measures being taken or are proposed to be taken by the Government to overcome this problem?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) & (b) As per National Family Health Survey report-III (2005-06) malnutrition and anaemia among under five children is 42.5% and 69.5% respectively. State-wise percentage of anaemic and malnourished children across the country is annexed.

(c) Various steps taken to prevent Nutritional deficiency is as follows:

# promoting appropriate infant and young child feeding practices-ensuring early initiation (within one hour of birth) of breast feeding and exclusive breast feeding till 6 months of age, and timely complementary feeding after 6 months with continued breast feeding till 2 years

# Supplementation of anaemic children with iron supplements from the age of 6 months to 60 months along with de-worming

# Supplementation of Vitamin 'A' to the children of age group 9 to 59 months biannually

# Nutrition counselling of care givers by health care personnel,utilizing Village Health and Nutrition Days (VHNDs)

# Health and nutrition education to improve overall dietary intakes and promote consumption of iron and folate-rich foodstuffs

# Provision of Ante-natal and Post Natal Care services including prevention and treatment of Anaemia by supplementation with Iron and Folic Acid tablets during pregnancy and lactation.

# Establishment of Nutritional Rehabilitation Centres (NRC) to address Severe Acute malnutrition (SAM) and underlying complication.