

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3854  
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2011  
NATIONAL NUTRITION MONITORING BUREAU  
Gawali Patil Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao

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

- (a) whether any survey has been conducted by the National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau regarding nutrition in women and children in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in the light of said survey?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): During the year 2004-05, National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (NNMB) carried out the 'Diet and Nutritional status of Population and Prevalence of Hypertension amongst Adults in Rural Areas' in 9 States viz, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. The villages covered by NSSO for its 54th round Consumer Expenditure Surveys, formed the sample frame. In addition to routine diet and nutrition assessment, prevalence of obesity, hypertension and diabetes mellitus(Andhra Pradesh only) and hemoglobin were also assessed.

The investigations included demographic and socio-economic particulars of the households, nutritional anthropometry, clinical examination, assessment of food and nutrient intake, morbidity, blood pressure, fasting blood glucose and hemoglobin levels.

As per this NNMB report (2006), prevalence of underweight, stunting and wasting, according to revised WHO Child Growth Standards among preschool children (0-60 months) was 40%, 45% and 20% respectively. The prevalence of overweight/obesity was about 2.5%. Amongst women, the prevalence of Chronic Energy Deficiency (CED) (assessed as BMI below 18.5) is 36% and overweight as 10.9%.

Taking into consideration the above report, the nutritional norms for supplementary nutrition under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme have been revised from 24th February 2009.

Since the problem of malnutrition is complex, multi-dimensional and inter-generational in nature, the approach to dealing with the nutrition challenges has been two pronged: Multi-sectoral approach for accelerated action on the determinants of malnutrition in targeting nutrition in schemes/programmes of all the sectors. As the multi-sectoral approach takes some time to show results and when implemented together, have a trickle down and horizontal effect to benefit the population over a period of time, other part of the approach is direct and specific interventions targeted towards the vulnerable groups such as children below 6 years, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating mothers.

The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is implementing several schemes/programmes of different Ministries/Departments through State Governments/UT Administrations. The schemes/programmes include the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Mid Day Meal Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Schemes for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG) namely SABLA, Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojna (IGMSY) as Direct targeted interventions. Besides, indirect Multi-sectoral interventions include Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), National Horticulture Mission, National Food Security Mission, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Total Sanitation Campaign, National Rural Drinking Water Programme etc. All these schemes have potential to address one or other aspect of Nutrition. Several of the existing schemes/programmes have been expanded / universalized just before or during the Eleventh Five year Plan.