

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4677

ANSWERED ON:04.05.2012

BALANCED DIET . ADV. GANESHRAO DUDHGAONKAR

Gawali Patil Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao ;Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study to find out the reasons for most of the people not getting balanced diet across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the percentage of people getting balanced diet in the country;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated and issued any policy guidelines to the State Governments for ensuring balanced diet to the people, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the appropriate steps taken by the Government to made available balanced diet to the people in the country on priority basis?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a): No.

(b): Question does not arise.

(c): Government has adopted National Nutrition Policy in 1993 with the specific objectives of operationalising the multi-sectoral strategies for alleviating the multi-faceted problem of malnutrition and achieving the optimal state of nutrition for the people. Details of National Nutrition policy are available at <http://wcd.nic.in/nnp.pdf>

(d): Some of the key steps taken by the Government are as follows:

1. Prime Minister's National Council on India's Nutrition Challenges was set up in October, 2008 for policy direction, review & effective coordination between Ministries which all will have a sectoral responsibility for the challenge of Nutrition.
2. Supplementary Nutrition under Integrated Child Development Services Scheme(ICDS).
3. Nutrition Education to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breast feeding and dietary diversification under both ICDS and National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).
4. National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Programme).
5. National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP) for promotion of adequately iodated salt consumption at household level.
6. Emphasis on appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding.
7. Vitamin A supplementation for children till the age of 5 years.
8. Iron & Folic Acid syrup to children from the age of 6 months to 5 years, Iron & Folic Acid Supplementation to pregnant and lactating women and Weekly Iron & Folic Acid Supplementation to adolescent boys and girls attending government schools and out of school adolescent girls.
9. Treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition through Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs) set up at public health facilities.
10. Appropriate education about balanced diet in curriculum of school going children.