

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:111  
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012  
NUTRITION CHALLENGES  
Dhurve Jyoti

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

- (a) whether the National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (NNMB) has conducted any survey on the malnutrition of children and adolescent girls in various States of the country including Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has adopted any effective strategy to deal with the nutrition challenges; and
- (d) if, so the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) of LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 111 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.08.2012 RAISED BY SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE

(a) & (b): The National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (NNMB) under the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, has carried out rural (2005-06) and tribal surveys (2008-09) in major States, namely Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Gujarat, and West Bengal. The prevalence of underweight among rural pre school children (1-5 years), school age children (6-9 years), 10-13 years and 14-17 years adolescents has been reported in the NNMB Rural Surveys, 2005-06. Similarly the NNMB Tribal II Repeat survey, 2008-09 has also reported the prevalence of underweight among tribal children and adolescents. State- wise details including Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are at Annex 1.

(c) & (d): The approach in dealing with the nutrition challenges has been two pronged: First is the Multi-sectoral approach for accelerated action on the determinants of malnutrition in targeting nutrition in schemes/ programmes of all the sectors. The second approach, is the 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 especially among children and young girls 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), 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. Government has recently decided to strengthen and restructure ICDS with special focus on pregnant and lactating mothers and children under three and to launch an effective information, education and communication