

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4481
ANSWERED ON:07.09.2012
MALNUTRITION
Lal Shri Kirodi

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

- (a) whether the Government has carried out any study/online survey to ascertain the level of malnutrition among the children residing in the rural and urban areas of the country including Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the result/outcome of the said study; and
- (c) the follow up action taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per the National Family Health Survey-3 (NFHS-3), 2005-06, underweight in children under 5 years is 32.7% in urban and 45.6% in rural areas of the country and 30.1% and 42.5% in Rajasthan respectively. Underweight in children under three years in Rajasthan has declined from 46.7% in 1998-99 (NFHS-2) to 36.8% (NFHS-3) The State-wise details of the underweight children in rural and urban areas are at Annexure.

(c): 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 Matritv 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.