

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3553

ANSWERED ON:29.07.2009

TASK FORCE FOR NRHM

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether 57 percent of children under 3 years of age among the urban poor are malnourished while in rural areas the proportion is less than half;
- (b) if not, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether the health indices for the urban poor have been consistently bad and becoming worse over the years,
- (d) if so, the response of the Union Government thereon;
- (e) whether the Task Force, constituted by the Government to advise the National Rural Health Mission on urban health, has given its recommendations to the Government; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to implement these recommendations?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

- (a)&(b) As per the information available in the National Family health Survey (2005-06), 30.1 % of the children under three years in the urban areas are underweight while the proportion in rural areas is 43.7%.
- (c) The Infant Mortality Rate for rural/ Urban population is given in Statement It may be seen that these rates have been declining over the years.
- (d) & (e) In order to effectively address the health needs of urban poor, Government of India constituted a Task Force in June, 2005 to advise the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) on strategies for urban health care. The Task Force recommended launching of an exclusive Nation Urban Health Mission on the pattern of NRHM to effectively address the health needs of the urban population in general and urban poor in particular.
- (f) The recommendations of the Task Force are under consideration in consultation with the concerned Ministries.