

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3216  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2013  
MALNUTRITION  
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra

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

(a) whether the Government has constituted committees at Central and State Levels to address the problem of malnutrition in women and children living in rural, tribal, backward areas and slums in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): To address malnutrition, Prime Minister's Council on India's Nutrition Challenges has been constituted in 2008 for policy directions, review and effective coordination between Ministries for nutrition at the Central level.

The National Nutrition Policy 1993 and the National Plan of Action on Nutrition 1995 have provided for clear cut institutional structure starting from national to grassroots level. Under this, State Government / UT Administrations are required to set up an apex State level Nutrition Council chaired by Chief Minister; an Inter-Departmental Coordinating Committee headed by the Chief Secretary, and consider constituting similar bodies at the District level.

The State Governments/UT Administration have been urged to set up State Nutrition Councils etc. Minister of State Women & Child Development and Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development have written to the Chief Minister and Chief Secretaries respectively of the States/UTs in this regard. Further, the need to set up the Nutrition Councils by the States/UTs has been emphasized at the meetings of the State Ministers/ Secretaries of Women and Child Development held from time to time.

As per available information the position of setting up of State Nutrition Councils/ Committees is indicated at Annex 1.