

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2482

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013

ANAEMIA IODINE DEFICIENCY AND MICRO NUTRIENT DISORDERS

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

- (a) the number of cases of anaemia, iodine deficiency and micro nutrient disorders came to the notice of the Government especially adolescents, women and rural areas in the country during each of the last three years and current year, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether various schemes being implemented by the Government in this regard have not yielded the desired results;
- (c) if so, the details of the schemes and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The information on cases of anemia, iodine deficiency and various micro-nutrient disorders is not maintained at Central level. However the situation on above stated conditions is as below:

(i) As per National Family Health Survey (NFHS) 3 (2005-06), 30.2 per cent adolescent boys, 55.8 per cent of adolescent girls, 55.3 per cent of all women 15-49 years, 56.2 per cent of ever married women and 58.7 per cent of pregnant women are anaemic in the country. State/UT wise information is at Annexure I.

(ii) As per the report on National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (NNMB) under the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad (ICMR) which conducts surveys in rural areas of nine States, prevalence of Night Blindness that indicates Vitamin A deficiency in children has reduced from 1.1% in 2001 to 0.2% in 2006 and the prevalence of Bitot's Spot (sign of vitamin A deficiency) in children has also decreased from 0.7% to 0.6%. The available State wise information is at Annexure II.

(iii) Surveys conducted by Directorate General of Health Services, ICMR, Health Institutions and State Health Directorates found that out of 365 districts surveyed in all 35 States and UTs, 303 districts are endemic i.e. where the prevalence of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) is more than 10 per cent. However, as regards to Iodine Deficiency Disorders, the visible Goitre in the entire country is reduced significantly as a result of consumption of iodised salt under centrally assisted National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control programme (NIDDCP).

(d). Under the National Rural Health Mission, the following activities are being undertaken to address the issue of micro-nutrient disorders:

(i) National Iron plus initiative has been launched in which Weekly Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation (WIFS) is given to adolescent girls and boys, and all women in reproductive age group. Children, pregnant and lactating mothers are also provided IFA supplementation under this initiative.

ii) Screening of pregnant women for identification of anemia and referring these cases to an appropriate health facility for treatment.

(iii) Vitamin A supplementation for all children in age group of 6-59 months and biannual de-worming for helminthic (worm) infestation.

(iv) Nutritional counselling for dietary diversification is done under Village Health and Nutrition Days.

(v) Centrally assisted NIDDCP under which Consumption of iodised salt is promoted.