

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:402
ANSWERED ON:21.02.2014
MALNUTRITION AND UNDERWEIGHT
Singh Shri Prabhunath

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

- (a) whether India ranks high in the world in terms of number of children suffering from malnutrition and underweight;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government to overcome the aforesaid problems and the funds allocated/released/ utilized along with the achievement made thereunder during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme and State/ UT-wise; and
- (d) the further measures taken/being taken by the Government to eradicate the problems of malnutrition and underweight among children in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 402 FOR 21ST FEBRUARY, 2014

(a)&(b):Yes.

As per National Family Health Survey 3 (2005-06), 42.5 percent of under-five children are underweight, 48 per cent are stunted and 19.8 per cent are wasted. However, as per the latest HUNGaMA (Hunger and Malnutrition) Survey, 2011 covering 112 districts across nine states, the prevalence of child underweight has decreased from 53.1% (DLHS 2. 2002-04) to 42% (HUNGaMA 2011).

Problem of malnutrition is complex, multidimensional and inter-generational in nature and requires a multi-sectoral response. The important determinants are inadequate food, poor socio- economic status of women, female illiteracy, early age at marriage and early child bearing, low access of population to health education, safe drinking water, sanitation, hygiene and other social services.

(c)& (d): The approach to deal with the nutrition challenges has been two pronged: First is the multi-sectoral approach for accelerated action on the determinants of malnutrition in schemes/programmes of multiple 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 in the country and is implementing several schemes/programmes of different Ministries/Departments through States Government/UT Administrations. The schemes/programmes include the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), National Nutrition Mission i.e. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign against Malnutrition, Multi-sectoral Nutrition Programme, National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Mid-Day Meal Scheme(MDM), 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), Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan, National Rural Drinking Water Programme etc. All these schemes have potential to address one or the other aspect of Nutrition.

The budgetary allocation and expenditure under the various schemes on nutrition during the last three years and current year is as below:

Financial Year	Scheme	Budget Estimate (Rs. in Crore)	Expenditure (Rs. In Crore)
2010-11	NNM	1.00	Nil
	ICDS	9763.11	15337.97

RCH flexipool 3647.00 3705.56
underNRHM
2011-12 NNM 100.00 Nil
ICDS 14272.21 19196.47
RCH flexipool 4009.75 4572.84
underNRHM
2012-13 NNM 83.00 55.69
ICDS 15701.49 21649.81
RCH flexipool 4710.51 5757.76
underNRHM
2013-14 NNM 200.00 151.22
ICDS 14483.44 6938.11
RCH flexipool 5097.01 4181.73
underNRHM
NNM: National Nutrition Mission
ICDS: Integrated Child Development Scheme
RCH: Reproductive & Child Health
NRHM: National Rural Health Mission
Figures only till 30.9.2013
Provisional figures.

State-wise details of funds allocated under ICDS and NRHM in the last three years are annexed.