

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2495

ANSWERED ON:14.12.2015

Cases of Child Deaths

Sahu Shri Tamradhwaj

**Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of cases of child deaths due to starvation reported in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the reasons for the highest cases of child deaths due to starvation in tribal areas of Chhattisgarh; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check such cases?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA)

(a) & (b): No cases of child deaths due to starvation in tribal areas of the country including Chhattisgarh have been reported to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. However, as per the Rapid Survey on Children, 2013-14, commissioned by Ministry of Women and Child Development, data on Nutritional Status of Children shows that amongst the Scheduled Tribe children under 5 years of age, 19.5% are severely stunted, 5.3% are severely wasted and 13.0% are severely underweight.

(c): The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition 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) Scheme, National Health Mission, Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Scheme 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, National Horticulture Mission, National Food Security Act, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Total Sanitation Campaign, National Rural Drinking Water Programme etc.

Further, the Food and Nutrition Board of the Ministry of Women and Child Development has been organising Nutrition Education Programmes in the urban slums, rural and tribal areas for creating awareness about importance of nutrition, nutrient conservation, proper cooking methods, low cost nutritious recipes etc.

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