

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2231
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025

DATA COLLECTION ON MALNOURISHMENT

2231 SHRI YERRAM VENKATA SUBBA REDDY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government does not collect data relating to malnourishment of infants between the age group of 5 and 15 and elders aged above 49 years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government will consider collecting data on malnourishment of above category of people from the next National Family Health Survey;
- (d) whether 'infants' and 'elders' are going to be covered under Poshan 2.0; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

(a) to (e) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoH&FW) administers the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), which is a large-scale, multi-round survey conducted in a representative sample of households throughout India and provides national and state wise population and health related details. The NFHS reports may be accessed at <https://www.nfhsiips.in/nfhsuser/publication.php>

The NFHS-5, conducted in 2019-21, *inter-alia*, provides data on nutritional status of children under age 5 years, women for age 15-49 years, and men for age 15-54 years. Further, Wave-1 of Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (LASI), conducted in 2017-18, *inter-alia*, provides, data on prevalence of underweight, overweight and obesity among male and female for age group 45-59 [also provide data for spouse (irrespective of age)] and 60 & above.

Ministry of Women and Child Development implements Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0), which subsumes components of Saksham Anganwadi, Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent Girls. It is a Centrally Sponsored mission, where the responsibility for implementation of various activities lies with the States and UTs.

Eligible beneficiaries of Mission Poshan 2.0 are all Children (0 to 6 years), Pregnant Women, Lactating Mothers and Adolescent Girls (14-18 years in Aspirational districts and North-East region). Following six services are provided to the beneficiaries through the platform of Anganwadi Centres:

- i. Supplementary Nutrition (SNP)

- ii. Pre-school Non-formal Education,
- iii. Nutrition & Health Education,
- iv. Immunization,
- v. Health Check-up, and
- vi. Referral Services

Under this mission, growth monitoring (including height and weight) of all children (0-6 years) is measured on a monthly basis. Their nutritional indicators such as stunting and underweight of children (0-6 years), and wasting of children (0-5 years), are measured as per WHO standards.
