

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1084
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09-12-2025**

STUNTING, WASTING AND OVERWEIGHT CHILDREN

1084: SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:

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

- (a) the details regarding stunting, wasting and overweight in children according to the latest National Family Health Survey (NHFS), State-wise;
- (b) the details regarding prevalence of anaemia in children under 5, women between 15-49 years and men between 15-49 years as per the latest NHFS, State-wise; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to address the issues of stunting, wasting, overweight and anaemia?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is conducting an integrated survey namely National Family Health Survey (NFHS) with a periodicity of around three years. As per the findings of the latest survey round, viz., NFHS-5 (2019-21), on stunting, wasting and overweight in children under age 5 years, prevalence of anaemia among children aged 6-59 months, women and men aged 15-49 years for India, State/UT, the details are provided at Annexure-I and Annexure-II, respectively.

The Government has accorded high priority to malnutrition and is implementing several schemes/programmes of different Ministries/Departments through States/UTs to address various aspects related to nutrition which includes Anaemia Mukt Bharat (AMB), Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs), Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA) Program, Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Days (VHSNDs), Vitamin A supplementation, National Deworming Day (NDD), Lactation Management Centres, Adolescent Friendly Health Centres, National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013, School Health & Wellness Programme (SHWP), Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) and Community Management of Malnutrition (CMAM).

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched Mission Poshan 2.0. Under the Mission, a new strategy has been made for reduction in malnutrition and for improved health, wellness and immunity through activities like community engagement, outreach, behavioral

change, and advocacy. It focuses on Maternal Nutrition, Infant and Young Child Feeding Norms, treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)/ Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and wellness through AYUSH practices to reduce prevalence of wasting, stunting, anaemia and underweight.

Under this Mission, supplementary nutrition in the form of hot cooked meal and take home ration is provided to children (6 months to 6 years), pregnant women, lactating mothers and adolescent girls registered in anganwadi centres to beat the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition by adopting a life cycle approach. Supplementary nutrition is provided in accordance with the nutrition norms contained in Schedule-II of the National Food Security Act to all the States/ UTs. These norms have been revised in January 2023. The old norms were largely calorie-specific; however, the revised norms are more comprehensive and balanced in terms of both quantity and quality of supplementary nutrition based on the principles of diet diversity that provides for quality protein, healthy fats and micronutrients.

Under this Mission, one of the major activities undertaken is community mobilization and awareness advocacy to educate people on nutritional aspects as adoption of good nutrition habit requires sustained efforts for behavioural change. States/UTs are conducting and reporting regular sensitisation activities under Jan Andolans during Poshan Maahs and Poshan Pakhwadas celebrated in the months of September and March-April respectively. Community Based Events have served as a significant strategy in changing nutritional practices and all anganwadi workers are required to conduct two Community Based Events every month.

Under Swasth Nari Shashakt Bharat Abhiyan, addressing Obesity- Reducing Sugar and Oil Consumption was one of the 6 themes of the recently celebrated 8th Rashtriya Poshan Maah from 17th September to 16th October 2025, throughout the country dedicated to nutrition awareness, community participation, and behavioral change. During the 8th Rashtriya Poshan Maah, a total of 10.40 crore activities have been reported on Jan Andolan Dashboard.

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No.1084 for answer on 09-12-2025

Stunting, Wasting and Overweight in Children under age 5 years				
Sl. No.	State/UT	Stunting (%) (height-for-age) ¹	Wasting (%) (weight-for-height) ¹	Overweight (%) (weight-for-height) ²
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	22.5	16	5.4
2	Andhra Pradesh	31.2	16.1	2.7
3	Arunachal Pradesh	28	13.1	9.6
4	Assam	35.3	21.7	4.8
5	Bihar	42.9	22.9	2.4
6	Chandigarh	25.3	8.4	1.8
7	Chhattisgarh	34.6	18.9	4.0
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	39.4	21.6	1.9
9	Delhi	30.9	11.2	4.0
10	Goa	25.8	19.1	2.8
11	Gujarat	39.0	25.1	3.9
12	Haryana	27.5	11.5	3.3
13	Himachal Pradesh	30.8	17.4	5.7
14	Jammu & Kashmir	26.9	19.0	9.6
15	Jharkhand	39.6	22.4	2.8
16	Karnataka	35.4	19.5	3.2
17	Kerala	23.4	15.8	4.0
18	Ladakh	30.5	17.5	13.4
19	Lakshadweep	32.0	17.4	10.5
20	Madhya Pradesh	35.7	18.9	2.0
21	Maharashtra	35.2	25.6	4.1
22	Manipur	23.4	9.9	3.3
23	Meghalaya	46.5	12.1	4.0
24	Mizoram	28.9	9.8	10.0
25	Nagaland	32.7	19.1	4.9
26	Odisha	31.0	18.1	3.5
27	Puducherry	20.0	12.4	3.8
28	Punjab	24.5	10.6	4.1
29	Rajasthan	31.8	16.8	3.3
30	Sikkim	22.3	13.6	9.6
31	Tamil Nadu	25.0	14.6	4.3
32	Telangana	33.1	21.7	3.4
33	Tripura	32.3	18.2	8.2
34	Uttar Pradesh	39.7	17.3	3.1
35	Uttarakhand	27.0	13.2	4.1
36	West Bengal	33.8	20.3	4.3
	India	35.5	19.3	3.4

Sources: NFHS-5 (2019-21) National Report, (<https://www.nfhsnips.in/nfhsuser/publication.php>)

¹Below -2 standard deviations, based on the WHO standard. Recumbent length is measured for children under age 2; standing height is measured for all other children

²Above +2 standard deviations, based on the WHO standard

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No.1084 for answer on 09-12-2025

Prevalence of anaemia among children aged 6-59 months, women and men age 15-49 years				
Sl. No.	State/UT	anaemia(<11.0 g/dl) among children	anaemia (<12.0 g/dl) among women	anaemia (<13.0 g/dl) among men
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	40.0	57.5	16.1
2	Andhra Pradesh	63.2	58.8	16.3
3	Arunachal Pradesh	56.6	40.3	21.4
4	Assam	68.4	65.9	36.0
5	Bihar	69.4	63.5	29.5
6	Chandigarh	54.6	60.3	9.2
7	Chhattisgarh	67.2	60.8	27.0
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	75.8	62.5	24.6
9	Delhi	69.2	49.9	12.8
10	Goa	53.2	38.9	12.0
11	Gujarat	79.7	65.0	26.6
12	Haryana	70.4	60.4	19.0
13	Himachal Pradesh	55.4	53.0	18.6
14	Jammu & Kashmir	72.7	65.9	36.7
15	Jharkhand	67.4	65.3	29.6
16	Karnataka	65.5	47.8	19.6
17	Kerala	39.4	36.3	17.6
18	Ladakh	93.9	92.8	75.6
19	Lakshadweep	43.1	25.8	5.6
20	Madhya Pradesh	72.6	54.7	22.5
21	Maharashtra	68.9	54.2	21.9
22	Manipur	42.8	29.4	6.0
23	Meghalaya	45.1	53.8	25.5
24	Mizoram	46.4	34.8	15.6
25	Nagaland	42.7	28.9	10.0
26	Odisha	64.2	64.3	28.5
27	Puducherry	64.0	55.1	19.5
28	Punjab	71.1	58.6	22.6
29	Rajasthan	71.5	54.4	23.2
30	Sikkim	56.4	42.0	18.7
31	Tamil Nadu	57.4	53.4	15.2
32	Telangana	70.0	57.6	15.3
33	Tripura	64.2	67.2	36.8
34	Uttar Pradesh	66.4	50.4	21.4
35	Uttarakhand	58.8	42.6	15.1
36	West Bengal	69.0	71.4	39.0
	India	67.1	57.0	25.1

Sources: NFHS-5 (2019-21) National Report, (<https://www.nfhsiiips.in/nfhsuser/publication.php>)

Note: Prevalence is adjusted for altitude and for smoking status, if known, using the CDC formulas (Centers for Disease Control (CDC) 1998 Recommendations to prevent and control iron deficiency in the United States. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 47 (RR-3): 1-29). Haemoglobin levels are shown in grams per decilitre (g/dl).