

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 206
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2017

STATUS OF MALNUTRITION

206. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the status of malnutrition amongst children and adolescent girls in Jharkhand and the rest of the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to plug the shortcomings?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)

- (a) & (b) The status of malnutrition in the country amongst children and adolescent girls is covered under the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted periodically by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. The details are as under:

Indicator	As per NFHS-4	As per NFHS-3
Malnutrition among children <5 years – national level	35.7%	42.5%
Malnutrition among children <5 years – Jharkhand	47.8%	56.5%
Adolescent Girls BMI (women in the age group of 15-49 years), - national level	22.9%	35.5%
Adolescent Girls BMI (women in the age group of 15-49 years) – Jharkhand	31.5%	42.9%
Anaemia – national level	53%	55.3%
Anaemia – Jharkhand	65.2%	69.5%

- (c) The Ministry is implementing several schemes and programs like Anganwadi Services under the Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, Scheme for Adolescent Girls and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojna as direct targeted interventions to address the problem of malnutrition in the country. Recently, National Nutrition Mission has been set up to act as an apex body for monitoring and guiding the nutrition related issues of various government schemes.

Besides, Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) of the Ministry of Women and Child Development with its 43 field units in India is engaged in creating awareness in nutrition in collaboration with State Government / institutions through exhibitions; advertisement in audio-visual and print media; lectures promoting the consumption of balanced diets and inclusion of fruits and vegetables in daily diets in addition to demonstrations of low cost nutritious recipes using locally available foods; training of field functionaries and training in food preservation for grassroots level workers; celebration of nutrition related events, etc.

All these schemes address one or other aspects related to nutrition and have the potential to improve nutritional outcomes in the country. As a result of these concerted efforts, the level of malnutrition has reduced in the country as is evident from the recent report of National Family Health Survey (NFHS) – 4, 2015-16.