

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1638
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2022

MALNOURISHED CHILDREN

1638. SHRI LALLU SINGH:
DR. AMAR SINGH:
DR. CHANDRA SEN JADON:
SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

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

- a. whether the number of malnourished children is steadily increasing in the country, if so, the details in this regard, State-wise;
- b. whether problems of wasting and stunting in children under five years of age are more in the districts of Uttar Pradesh, if so, the details thereof, district-wise;
- c. the details of the work done by the Government in this regard in Firozabad district of Uttar Pradesh through various schemes/programmes along with the outcome thereof;
- d. whether the Government has drawn any action plan to reduce stunting and wasting by 6 per cent by 2022 among children and anaemia by 9 per cent among children, teenage girls and pregnant women, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- e. the other measures being taken by the Government for making country malnutrition free?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) The data on nutrition indicators is obtained under National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. As per the recent report of NFHS-5 (2019-21), the nutrition indicators for children under 5 years have improved as compared with NFHS-4 (2015-16). Stunting has reduced from 38.4% to 35.5%, while wasting has reduced from 21.0% to 19.3%, underweight prevalence has reduced from 35.8% to 32.1%. The State/UT wise prevalence of malnutrition among children under five years of age is at **Annexure-I**.

(b) As per the recent report of NFHS-5 (2019-21), the nutrition indicators for children under 5 years have improved as compared with NFHS-4 (2015-16) in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Stunting has reduced from 46.3% to 39.7%, while wasting has reduced from 17.9% to 17.3%, underweight prevalence has reduced from 39.5% to 32.1%

District-wise prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight among children under five years of age as per National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-21) in the State of Uttar Pradesh is at **Annexure-II**.

(c) Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is making serious efforts to address this issue. POSHAN Abhiyaan, a flagship scheme of the Government was launched in 2018 to address the malaise of malnutrition by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach. To ensure a holistic approach, all districts (including Firozabad District of Uttar Pradesh) of States/UTs have been covered in the Abhiyaan.

Further in Firozabad district, State Government organizes “Vajan Diwas” to identify malnourished/ severely malnourished children and efforts are made to improve the nutritional status of these children, which include health check-ups, treatment at NRCs, distribution of supplementary nutrition, and ensuring benefits of the schemes in convergence with line departments.

(d) & (e) POSHAN Abhiyaan, a flagship scheme of the Government was launched in 2018 to address the challenges of malnutrition by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach. The programme makes interventions by use of technology, behavioural change through convergence and lays-down targets to be achieved across different parameters. The Abhiyaan has been rolled-out in all States and UTs.

The efforts under the Supplementary Nutrition Programme under Anganwadi Services and POSHAN Abhiyaan have been aligned under ‘Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0’ (Mission Poshan 2.0). It seeks to address the challenges of malnutrition in children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers through a strategic shift in nutrition content and delivery and by creation of a convergent ecosystem to develop and promote practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity. The Common Core of Poshan 2.0 focuses on Maternal Nutrition, Infant and Young Child Feeding Norms, Treatment of MAM/SAM and Wellness through AYUSH. It rests on the pillars of Convergence, Capacity Building, Governance and Outreach. Under Poshan 2.0, focus is on diet diversity, food fortification, leveraging traditional systems of knowledge and popularizing use of millets. Nutrition awareness strategies under Poshan 2.0 aim to develop sustainable health and well-being through regional meal plans to bridge dietary gaps.

Steps have been taken to improve nutritional quality and testing in accredited labs, strengthen delivery and leverage technology under the 'Poshan Tracker', a robust ICT enabled platform to improve governance with regard to real-time monitoring of provision of supplementary nutrition for prompt supervision and management of services.

Under Poshan 2.0, focus is on diet diversity, food fortification, leveraging traditional systems of knowledge and popularizing use of millets. Nutrition awareness strategies under Poshan 2.0 aim to develop sustainable health and well-being through regional meal plans to bridge dietary gaps. Saksham Anganwadi Guidelines support development of Poshan Vatikas at Anganwadi centers to meet dietary diversity gaps leveraging traditional knowledge in nutritional practices.

To address the challenges of malnutrition and anaemia in women and children arising due to deficiency of micro nutrients like Iron, Folic Acid and Vitamin B-12, under Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) of Anganwadi Services, Ministry has advised all the States/UTs to ensure use of relevant fortified food articles (wherever supplied), including Double Fortified Salt in the administration of the Supplementary Nutrition Programme. Under SNP, Fortified Rice was allocated to 21 States/UTs during the 2nd quarter of FY 2021-22 and from the 3rd quarter of FY 2021-22 onwards only Fortified Rice is being allocated to all the State/UTs. So far, under SNP, this Ministry has allocated 731962 MTs of Fortified Rice in FY 2021-22 and 938207 MTs of Fortified rice up to third quarter of FY 2022-23 to all the States/UTs.

Further, more emphasis is being given on the supply of millets for preparation of Hot Cooked Meal and Take Home rations at Anganwadis for Pregnant Women, Lactating mothers and children below 6 years of age, as millets are highly nutritious and are known to have high nutrient content which includes protein, essential fatty acid, dietary fibre, B-Vitamins, minerals such as calcium, iron, zinc, folic acid and other micro-nutrients thus helping to tackle anaemia and other micro-nutrient deficiencies common among women and children. It may also be noted that as per the Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0 guidelines, millets need to be mandatorily supplied at least once a week and suitably integrated in THR and HCM in a palatable form.

Further, Government of India has launched Anemia Mukh Bharat (AMB) strategy with the target to reduce anemia in women, children and adolescents in life cycle approach. The 6x6x6 strategy under AMB implies six age groups, six interventions and six institutional mechanisms. The six interventions under Anemia Mukh Bharat strategy include, Prophylactic Iron Folic Acid Supplementation, Periodic de-worming, Intensified year-round Behaviour Change Communication Campaign, Testing and treatment of anemia, using digital methods and point of care treatment, Convergence and coordination with other line departments and ministries for strengthening implementation etc

ANNEXURE-I

State/UT-wise prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight among children under five years of age as per National Family Health Survey (NFHS):

S. No.	Name of State/UT	Stunting (%)		Wasting (%)		Underweight (%)	
		NHFS 4 (2015-16)	NHFS 5 (2019-21)	NHFS 4 (2015-16)	NHFS 5 (2019-21)	NHFS 4 (2015-16)	NHFS 5 (2019-21)
	INDIA	38.4	35.5	21	19.3	35.8	32.1
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	23.3	22.5	18.9	16	21.6	23.7
2	Andhra Pradesh	31.4	31.2	17.2	16.1	31.9	29.6
3	Arunachal Pradesh	29.4	28	17.3	13.1	19.4	15.4
4	Assam	36.4	35.3	17	21.7	29.8	32.8
5	Bihar	48.3	42.9	20.8	22.9	43.9	41
6	Chandigarh	28.7	25.3	10.9	8.4	24.5	20.6
7	Chhattisgarh	37.6	34.6	23.1	18.9	37.7	31.3
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	37.2	39.4	26.7	21.6	35.8	38.7
9	Delhi	31.9	30.9	15.9	11.2	27	21.8
10	Goa	20.1	25.8	21.9	19.1	23.8	24
11	Gujarat	38.5	39	26.4	25.1	39.3	39.7
12	Haryana	34	27.5	21.2	11.5	29.4	21.5
13	Himachal Pradesh	26.3	30.8	13.7	17.4	21.2	25.5
14	Jammu & Kashmir	27.4	26.9	12.1	19	16.6	21
15	Jharkhand	45.3	39.6	29	22.4	47.8	39.4
16	Karnataka	36.2	35.4	26.1	19.5	35.2	32.9
17	Kerala	19.7	23.4	15.7	15.8	16.1	19.7
18	Lakshadweep	26.8	32	13.7	17.4	23.6	25.8
19	Ladakh	30.9	30.5	9.3	17.5	18.7	20.4
20	Madhya Pradesh	42	35.7	25.8	19	42.8	33
21	Maharashtra	34.4	35.2	25.6	25.6	36	36.1
22	Manipur	28.9	23.4	6.8	9.9	13.8	13.3
23	Meghalaya	43.8	46.5	15.3	12.1	28.9	26.6
24	Mizoram	28.1	28.9	6.1	9.8	12	12.7
25	Nagaland	28.6	32.7	11.3	19.1	16.7	26.9
26	Orissa	34.1	31	20.4	18.1	34.4	29.7
27	Puducherry	23.7	20	23.6	12.4	22	15.3

28	Punjab	25.7	24.5	15.6	10.6	21.6	16.9
29	Rajasthan	39.1	31.8	23	16.8	36.7	27.6
30	Sikkim	29.6	22.3	14.2	13.7	14.2	13.1
31	Tamil Nadu	27.1	25	19.7	14.6	23.8	22
32	Telangana	28	33.1	18.1	21.7	28.4	31.8
33	Tripura	24.3	32.3	16.8	18.2	24.1	25.6
34	Uttar Pradesh	46.3	39.7	17.9	17.3	39.5	32.1
35	Uttarakhand	33.5	27	19.5	13.2	26.6	21
36	West Bengal	32.5	33.8	20.3	20.3	31.6	32.2

District-wise prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight among children under five years of age as per National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-21) in State of Uttar Pradesh:

S. No.	Name of State/UT	Stunting (%)		Wasting (%)		Underweight (%)	
		NHFS 4 (2015-16)	NHFS 5 (2019-21)	NHFS 4 (2015-16)	NHFS 5 (2019-21)	NHFS 4 (2015-16)	NHFS 5 (2019-21)
	Uttar Pradesh	46.3	39.7	17.9	17.3	39.5	32.1
1	Agra	44.7	35.8	14.9	16.4	34.8	26.2
2	Aligarh	49.1	35.0	14.6	10.9	38.2	26.3
3	Allahabad	43.8	37.9	20.0	15.1	43.4	32.6
4	Ambedkar Nagar	43.0	31.1	22.7	17.8	41.0	29.2
5	Amethi	-	35.8	-	19.9	-	33.1
6	Auraiya	43.6	39.7	26.5	19.4	46.4	32.6
7	Azamgarh	40.0	33.4	16.9	14.4	33.0	28.0
8	Baghpat	35.8	25.5	14.9	10.3	33.3	26.0
9	Bahraich	65.1	52.1	13.7	14.3	44.0	38.0
10	Ballia	39.6	43.8	14.1	21.9	31.1	42.5
11	Balrampur	62.8	41.1	10.3	24.9	43.5	37.2
12	Banda	46.7	51.0	18.0	25.7	41.5	49.8
13	Bara Banki	51.5	41.9	12.2	18.1	40.2	31.9
14	Bareilly	45.6	45.9	18.8	15.4	42.1	35.2
15	Basti	48.9	35.9	14.1	24.1	33.3	39.2
16	Bijnor	42.6	36.2	22.4	9.4	41.8	21.9
17	Budaun	55.1	51.8	20.1	18.2	53.6	43.0
18	Bulandshahr	43.2	37.6	16.0	13.8	33.8	26.5
19	Chandauli	43.3	39.5	17.8	17.4	34.8	29.9
20	Chitrakoot	50.9	47.4	33.3	24.8	52.5	41.8
21	Deoria	41.2	36.8	14.1	26.5	31.6	39.4
22	Etah	51.0	48.8	9.6	14.9	32.2	30.6
23	Etawah	53.2	38.8	11.4	13.9	32.6	24.3
24	Faizabad	49.9	30.6	19.3	12.3	44.9	27.5
25	Farrukhabad	49.1	47.8	8.4	14.3	31.4	31.1
26	Fatehpur	52.4	51.1	14.9	17.8	40.4	38.0
27	Firozabad	44.0	46.9	11.7	9.5	27.9	25.6
28	Gautam Buddha Nagar	32.2	25.5	16.2	12.0	28.4	21.9
29	Ghaziabad	34.7	28.1	13.9	17.1	29.6	23.3
30	Ghazipur	41.4	39.3	17.7	25.7	31.7	38.3
31	Gonda	56.9	45.9	9.8	12.1	38.6	28.0
32	Gorakhpur	42.1	29.6	19.9	23.3	35.2	33.7
33	Hamirpur	38.5	48.0	32.3	20.6	39.8	36.3
34	Hapur	-	30.2	-	18.5	-	26.9

35	Hardoi	50.5	44.5	14.7	22.3	39.9	32.9
36	Jalaun	45.6	45.1	32.2	19.5	49.2	36.1
37	Jaunpur	48.0	40.5	27.3	14.8	52.7	30.3
38	Jhansi	36.1	40.9	27.2	25.2	39.5	39.3
39	Jyotiba Phule Nagar	44.7	42.2	22.8	22.5	42.4	35.4
40	Kannauj	50.4	43.0	12.2	21.5	32.9	33.5
41	Kanpur Dehat	45.9	44.1	15.4	12.5	36.1	32.8
42	Kanpur Nagar	43.6	34.6	24.1	21.4	41.8	27.8
43	Kanshiram Nagar	51.5	45.1	11.6	19.3	32.8	35.5
44	Kaushambi	50.1	40.2	29.9	18.3	52.8	36.8
45	Kheri	53.9	47.6	17.5	15.8	40.8	36.3
46	Kushinagar	45.0	32.2	14.6	24.3	35.1	36.6
47	Lalitpur	40.7	46.6	39.0	18.7	48.8	34.8
48	Lucknow	37.5	32.1	33.6	11.5	44.5	25.5
49	Mahamaya Nagar	44.2	39.1	9.7	12.0	31.7	24.5
50	Mahoba	44.6	42.3	23.9	25.0	47.7	33.4
51	Mahrajanj	53.3	40.5	12.5	21.8	37.1	37.4
52	Mainpuri	46.5	44.3	11.5	14.6	32.5	33.6
53	Mathura	40.8	31.6	12.9	11.0	27.7	21.3
54	Mau	40.9	25.4	19.7	21.2	35.1	30.3
55	Meerut	35.3	32.1	18.8	10.2	35.2	23.6
56	Mirzapur	49.1	43.4	20.8	12.5	46.5	27.6
57	Moradabad	45.1	34.7	16.4	19.1	43.2	27.0
58	Muzaffarnagar	40.8	29.8	18.8	20.7	36.9	29.9
59	Pilibhit	51.5	38.9	21.8	20.1	44.1	39.4
60	Pratapgarh	41.3	35.5	23.8	10.0	42.6	27.7
61	Rae Bareli	36.2	47.0	31.4	13.0	41.3	28.8
62	Rampur	46.0	40.4	20.8	17.5	44.4	32.1
63	Saharanpur	36.9	28.8	18.5	22.0	36.1	26.7
64	Sambhal	-	51.6	-	14.1	-	29.8
65	Sant Kabir Nagar	50.5	42.3	10.9	19.0	36.5	34.2
66	Sant Ravidas Nagar(Bhadohi)	51.4	42.7	21.5	9.1	49.1	26.5
67	Shahjahanpur	49.3	44.5	23.6	17.0	54.3	34.7
68	Shamli	-	28.6	-	24.3	-	27.5
69	Shrawasti	63.5	50.9	10.1	20.3	39.2	40.8
70	Siddharthnagar	57.9	37.2	13.7	24.8	43.5	36.3
71	Sitapur	56.4	47.8	14.0	18.2	48.6	37.9
72	Sonbhadra	45.9	38.3	22.5	26.7	46.4	46.5
73	Sultanpur	45.9	33.4	19.1	10.7	39.8	28.3
74	Unnao	46.5	39.2	13.1	12.1	34.3	29.3
75	Varanasi	44.7	37.4	25.3	21.0	45.4	39.0
