

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1133
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.09.2020

ACCESS TO NUTRITIOUS FOOD

1133: SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:
SHRIMATI MALAL RAJYA LAXMI SHAH:

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

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that children are deprived of daily nutritious food in different parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Bundelkhand;
- (c) whether any measures are being taken by the Government to create awareness and ensure availability of nutritious food;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has any proposal to include nutritious coarse grain grown in Uttrakhand under Kendriya Poshahar Vitaran Yojana so that the economic benefits of such a decision would accrue to women farmers in this region?

ANSWER

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

(a)& (b) Under the Anganwadi Services Scheme, supplementary nutrition is provided to children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years in the form of Take Home Ration to children (6 months to 3 years) and Morning Snacks and Hot Cooked Meal to children (3 – 6 years). The scheme is universal and open to all the eligible beneficiaries including the Bundelkhand region.

(c) & (d) Under POSHAN Abhiyaan, comprehensive communication plan & IEC materials have been developed and intensive Mass Media Campaign is conducted through various mass media channels. Besides, during the home visits conducted by AWWs, the beneficiaries are counselled on nutrition related issues.

Government has also emphasized the importance of dietary diversification through the use of fresh local fruits and vegetables depending on the local food habits. In this context, States/UTs have been advised to promote Nutrition Garden/ Kitchen Garden in the premises of Anganwadi Centers to help ensure regular supply of fresh fruits and vegetables rich in micronutrients like Iron, Vitamin-C, etc., for inclusion in supplementary nutrition and improve the nutritional status of the beneficiaries.

(e) States/UTs have been advised to include Millets (nutri-cereals / coarse grains like Jowar, Bajra, Ragi, etc.) in the recipes to enhance the nutritional quality of food provided under Supplementary Nutrition Programme. Further, Take Home Ration (THR) is distributed to children (6 months – 3 years), pregnant women & lactating mothers and severely malnourished children through Anganwadi Centres in the State of Uttarakhand. Local foods like Manduwa, Chaulai, Black gram, Rajma, Soyabean, etc., are encouraged in THR.
