

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1035  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd DECEMBER, 2021**

**UNDERNOURISHMENT IN INDIA**

1035. SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH:  
SHRI D.K.SURESH:

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

- (a) the number of malnutrition deaths in children and adults reported in the country during the last three years, year-wise and State/ UT wise;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of Food and Agriculture Report 2018 highlighting that India houses 195.9 million of the 821 million undernourished people in the world which accounts for approximately 24% of the world's hungry population;
- (c) If so, the details thereof;
- (d) measures taken by the Government to prevent the increasing number of the undernourished people in the country; and
- (e) details of funds earmarked and spend to check the undernourishment in the country during the last three years, year-wise?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE**

**(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (e): Malnutrition can increase risk of morbidity and mortality by reducing resistance to infections.

As per the Food and Agriculture Report, 2018 of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), in 2015-17 the number of undernourished people in India is 195.9 million out of the 821 million undernourished people in the world.

Government has taken several measures to strengthen nutritional content, delivery, outreach and outcomes with focus on developing practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity to disease and malnutrition. Steps have also been taken to improve nutritional quality and testing, strengthen delivery and leverage technology to improve governance. Government has advised States/UTs to ensure that the quality of supplementary nutrition conforms to prescribed standards laid down under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and regulations made there under.

States/UTs have also been advised to promote use of AYUSH systems for prevention of malnutrition and related diseases. A programme to support development of Poshan Vatikas at Anganwadi centers to meet dietary diversity gap leveraging traditional knowledge in nutritional practices has also been taken up. Guidelines were issued for transparency and accountability in delivery of supplementary nutrition and to track nutritional outcomes on 13.01.2021. The details of funds released and utilized from FY 2018-19 to 2020-21 under POSHAN Abhiyaan is as under:

Amount in ₹ lakhs

Total Central Funds released from FY 2018-19 to 2020-21	Total Central Funds utilized from FY 2018-19 to 2020-21
531279.08	298555.92

Further, funds released and utilized under SNP of Anganwadi Services Scheme in the last three years:

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Supplementary Nutrition Programme (Rs. in lakhs)		
		APIP Approved	Funds released	Funds Utilized
1	2018-19	857631.86	847591.84	845569.20
2	2019-20	936812.41	866117.82	929452.26*
3	2020-21	1010636.08	896321.89	761759.20

(\* The amount utilized includes the unspent balance available with the States/UTs of previous F.Y. and in case of excess expenditure incurred by the State Government, it would be reimbursed in the next financial year)

Also, Government of India approved Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on "Fortification of Rice & its Distribution under Public Distribution System" for a period of 3 years beginning in 2019-20. Fifteen (15) State Governments namely Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh consented and identified their respective Districts (1 District Per State) for implementation of the Pilot Scheme with total outlay of Rs 174.64 Cr. Out of the 15 States - Ten (10) States namely - Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Telangana have started distributing the fortified rice in their identified districts under the pilot scheme.

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