

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4871
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.04.2022

“MALNOURISHED CHILDREN”

4871 SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA:
SHRIMATI GEETA KORA:
SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:
SHRI D.K.SURESH:
DR. T. SUMATHY (a) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has carried out any study or survey to ascertain the level of malnutrition among women and children across the country and if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (b) whether 33 lakh children in India are malnourished and more than half of them fall in the severely malnourished category;
- (c) if so, the details thereof indicating the percentage of malnourished children State/UT-wise;
- (d) the names of districts and States in the country which have highest/lowest number of malnourished children; and
- (e) the measures adopted by the Government so far to tackle the problem of malnutrition in children across the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) The status of malnutrition (stunting, wasting, and underweight) in the country amongst children under 5 years and women (15-49 years) is provided by the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted periodically by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoH&FW). As per the report of NFHS-5 (2019-21), the nutrition indicators for children under 5 years have improved as compared with NFHS-4 (2015-16). Stunting, Wasting and Underweight has reduced from 38.4% to 35.5%, 21.0% to 19.3% and 35.8% to 32.1% respectively. Further the prevalence of malnutrition among women aged 15-49 years has decreased from 22.9 (NFHS 4) to 18.7 (NFHS 5).

(b) As per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS 5), 19.3% children under 5 years are malnourished, whereas, about 7.7% children fall in severely malnourished category.

(c) The State/UT wise prevalence of Stunting, Wasting and Underweight among children under 5 years as per NFHS 5 survey is at Annexure I.

(d) The State/UT having the highest and lowest prevalence of Stunting, Wasting and Underweight among children under 5 years of age is at Annexure II.

(e) The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is implementing several schemes like Anganwadi Services, Scheme for Adolescent Girls and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) under the Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme as direct targeted interventions to address the problem of malnutrition in the country. Children with Severe Acute Malnutrition are treated at the Nutrition Rehabilitation Centers established by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

POSHAN Abhiyaan launched on 8th March 2018, aims to reduce malnutrition in the country in a phased manner, through a lifecycle approach, by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach.

Mission Poshan 2.0, an integrated nutrition support programme has been announced in budget 2021-2022 for all States/UTs. It seeks to strengthen nutritional content, delivery, outreach and outcomes with focus on developing practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity to disease and malnutrition. Further, Guidelines were issued for transparency and accountability in delivery of supplementary nutrition and to track nutritional outcomes on 13.01.2021.

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 5)**

S. No.	Name of State/UT	Indicators		
		Stunting (%)	Wasting (%)	Underweight (%)
	INDIA	35.5	19.3	32.1
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	22.5	16	23.7
2	Andhra Pradesh	31.2	16.1	29.6
3	Arunachal Pradesh	28	13.1	15.4
4	Assam	35.3	21.7	32.8
5	Bihar	42.9	22.9	41
6	Chandigarh	25.3	8.4	20.6
7	Chhattisgarh	34.6	18.9	31.3
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	39.4	21.6	38.7
9	Delhi	30.9	11.2	21.8
10	Goa	25.8	19.1	24
11	Gujarat	39	25.1	39.7
12	Haryana	27.5	11.5	21.5
13	Himachal Pradesh	30.8	17.4	25.5
14	Jammu & Kashmir	26.9	19	21
15	Jharkhand	39.6	22.4	39.4
16	Karnataka	35.4	19.5	32.9
17	Kerala	23.4	15.8	19.7
18	Lakshadweep	32	17.4	25.8
19	Ladakh	30.5	17.5	20.4
20	Madhya Pradesh	35.7	19	33
21	Maharashtra	35.2	25.6	36.1
22	Manipur	23.4	9.9	13.3
23	Meghalaya	46.5	12.1	26.6
24	Mizoram	28.9	9.8	12.7
25	Nagaland	32.7	19.1	26.9
26	Orissa	31	18.1	29.7
27	Puducherry	20	12.4	15.3
28	Punjab	24.5	10.6	16.9
29	Rajasthan	31.8	16.8	27.6
30	Sikkim	22.3	13.7	13.1
31	Tamil Nadu	25	14.6	22
32	Telangana	33.1	21.7	31.8
33	Tripura	32.3	18.2	25.6
34	Uttar Pradesh	39.7	17.3	32.1
35	Uttarakhand	27	13.2	21
36	West Bengal	33.8	20.3	32.2

Annexure II**Top 10 & Bottom 10 States/UTs in terms of Stunting, Wasting and Underweight based on NFHS-5 (2019-21)**

Stunting			
Top 10		Bottom 10	
States/UTs	NFHS-5	States/UTs	NFHS-5
Puducherry	20	Meghalaya	46.5
Sikkim	22.3	Bihar	42.9
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	22.5	Uttar Pradesh	39.7
Manipur	23.4	Jharkhand	39.6
Kerala	23.4	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	39.4
Punjab	24.5	Gujarat	39
Tamil Nadu	25	Madhya Pradesh	35.7
Chandigarh	25.3	Karnataka	35.4
Goa	25.8	Assam	35.3
Jammu & Kashmir	26.9	Maharashtra	35.2

Wasting			
Top 10		Bottom 10	
States/UTs	NFHS-5	States/UTs	NFHS-5
Chandigarh	8.4	Maharashtra	25.6
Mizoram	9.8	Gujarat	25.1
Manipur	9.9	Bihar	22.9
Punjab	10.6	Jharkhand	22.4
Delhi	11.2	Assam	21.7
Haryana	11.5	Telangana	21.7
Meghalaya	12.1	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	21.6
Puducherry	12.4	West Bengal	20.3
Arunachal Pradesh	13.1	Karnataka	19.5
Uttarakhand	13.2	Nagaland	19.1

Underweight			
Top 10		Bottom 10	
States/UTs	NFHS-5	States/UTs	NFHS-5
Mizoram	12.7	Bihar	41
Sikkim	13.1	Gujarat	39.7
Manipur	13.3	Jharkhand	39.4
Puducherry	15.3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	38.7
Arunachal Pradesh	15.4	Maharashtra	36.1
Punjab	16.9	Madhya Pradesh	33
Kerala	19.7	Karnataka	32.9
Ladakh	20.4	Assam	32.8
Chandigarh	20.6	West Bengal	32.2
Jammu & Kashmir	21	Uttar Pradesh	32.1