

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 92
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2022

MALNUTRITION

*92. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has data regarding malnutrition in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of women and children affected by it and the malnutrition rate in the country since 2014, year-wise;
- (c) the number of death of women and children due to health issues related to malnutrition since 2014; and
- (d) the details of schemes being implemented by the Government to deal with issues of malnutrition along with the funds allocated for the purpose?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 92 due for answer on 22.07.2022, raised by Shri T. N. Prathapan regarding Malnutrition.

(a) to (b) The data on prevalence of malnutrition among children and women in the country 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 prevalence of malnutrition among children under 5 years and women aged 15-49 years has reduced as compared with NFHS-4 (2015-16). Stunting (in children under 5 years of age) has reduced from 38.4% as per NFHS-4 to 35.5% in NFHS-5, while wasting (in children under 5 years of age) has reduced from 21.0% to 19.3% and underweight prevalence (in children under 5 years of age) has reduced from 35.8% to 32.1%. Further, the prevalence of under nutrition among women aged 15-49 years has reduced from 22.9% in NFHS-4 to 18.7% in NFHS-5.

(c) Malnutrition is not a direct cause of death; however, it can increase morbidity and mortality by reducing resistance to infections. Thus dis-aggregated data regarding the number of women and child deaths directly due to malnutrition is not available

(d) The 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. Further, to address various policy and systemic needs, the Integrated Child Development Scheme and Anganwadi Services schemes were re-evaluated in respect of programme design, implementation process, outcome and impact and for re-assessing the relevance of the programme in achieving its aims and goals. The efforts under the Supplementary Nutrition Programme under Anganwadi Services, Scheme for Adolescent Girls and POSHAN Abhiyaan have been re-aligned as 'Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0' for maximizing nutritional outcomes.. 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 eco-system to develop and promote practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity.

During the year 2021-22, a budget of Rs. 19963.90 crore was allocated under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0'
