

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2098
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2022

UNDERWEIGHT CHILDREN

2098. MS. MIMI CHAKRABORTY:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that India has reported high levels of stunting with 35.5 percent children below the age of five years were stunted and 32.1 percent were underweight in 2019-2021 and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) the progress made towards the target of reducing stunting to 25 percent by 2022 and the manner in which the Government will meet this target;
- (c) the names of the 235 districts that were identified under Poshan Abhiyaan scheme in 2018-2019 and the percentage of stunting in these districts, year-wise from 2019 till date;
- (d) whether the Government has initiated the implementation of the scheme in all the remaining districts of all 36 States/UTs and made financial approvals therefor; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The status of malnutrition (stunting, wasting, and underweight) in the country amongst children under 5 years is provided by the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted periodically by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoH&FW). As per NFHS-5 (2019-21), there has been improvement in the key nutrition indicators as compared to NFHS-4 (2015-16). Among children under 5 years of age, Stunting has reduced from 38.4% to 35.5%, while Wasting has reduced from 21.0% to 19.3% and Underweight has reduced from 35.8% to 32.1%.

To address various policy and systemic gaps, the ICDS and Anganwadi Services schemes were re-evaluated by the Ministry 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. A paradigm shift has been undertaken for the first time for improving nutritional norms and standards, quality and testing of Take-Home Ration (not raw ration), promoting greater stakeholder participation, re-enforcing practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity around traditional community food

habits and by improving digital infrastructure support for last-mile tracking and monitoring of nutrition delivery.

POSHAN Abhiyaan was launched on 8th March 2018. POSHAN Abhiyaan aims to reduce malnutrition in the country in a phased manner by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach. Progress under POSHAN Abhiyaan, is as follows:

- i. The Abhiyan has been rolled out in all 36 States/ UTs of the country.
- ii. Under the Abhiyan, for the first time, a digital revolution was ushered in when the Anganwadi Centres were empowered with mobile devices. 11.30 lakh Smart Phones and 11.94 lakh GMDs have been procured by the States/UTs till date.
- iii. A robust ICT Application “Poshan Tracker” has been conceptualised which is an overarching system, providing inter-linkages, and promoting real time data with analytics. Around 12.63 lakh AWCs have started using the ICT Application.
- iv. More than 40 crore Jan Andolan based activities have been conducted since the launch of the Abhiyaan.
- v. A total of four (4) Poshan Pakhwadas and four (4) Poshan Maahs have been conducted since the launch of the Abhiyaan. Poshan Pakhwada 2022 (celebrated from 21st March-4th April) witnessed approximately, 2.96 crore Jan Andolan based activities. Similarly, September, 2021 was celebrated as the Rashtriya Poshan Maah, wherein, 20.32 crore activities were conducted across the country.
- vi. More than 10 lakh Frontline Functionaries have been trained on thematic modules following the cascade mode of training at State, District and Block level.
- vii. Community Based Events (CBEs) are organized in a converged manner in Anganwadi Centres with the field functionaries. Around 3.70 crore CBEs have been organized since the launch of the Abhiyaan.
- viii. Area-wise diet charts were laid on the Table in Lok Sabha on 15th September 2020 and 23rd September 2020. The diet charts have also been uploaded on Ministry’s website in English and Hindi.

The efforts under the Supplementary Nutrition Programme under Anganwadi Services and POSHAN Abhiyaan have been rejuvenated and converged as ‘Saksham Anganwadi and 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 eco-system to develop and promote practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity.

(c) to (e) The prevalence of Stunting among Children under 5 years in 235 districts which were included under POSHAN Abhiyaan in 2018-19 is at **Annexure I**. POSHAN Abhiyaan is now being implemented across all the districts of 36 States/UTs.

Annexure I

Prevalence of Stunting among children under 5 years in 235 districts of States/UTs covered in Phase II (Year 2018-19) as per NFHS-5:

State/UT	District Name	Stunting (%)
		NFHS 5 (2019-21)
Andaman & Nicobar	Nicobar	21.6
	South Andaman	21.1
Total	2	
Andhra Pradesh	Guntur	23.8
	Krishna	29.8
	Spsr Nellore	29.2
Total	3	
Arunachal Pradesh	Anjaw	23.6
	Dibang Valley	16.9
	KraDaadi	28.8
	KurungKumey	29.2
	Longding	15.8
	Lower Subansiri	30.7
	Namsai	28.7
	Tirap	38.6
	West Siang	24.5
Total	9	
Assam	Baksa	41.2
	Bongaigaon	46.2
	Cachar	28.7
	Charaideo	39
	Chirang	42.7
	Dhemaji	37.2
	Dibrugarh	27.3
	Dima Hasao	30.6
	Golaghat	26.3
	Hailakandi	42.9
	Hojai	39.3
	Kamrup	22.6
	Kokrajhar	34.6
	Marigaon	43.2
	Nagaon	38.9
	Sivasagar	26.1
	South SalmaraMancachar	38.9

	Tinsukia	32.8
	Udalguri	33.8
Total	19	
Bihar	Siwan	36.7
Total	1	
Chhattisgarh	Balod	33.6
	Baloda Bazar	40.9
	Balrampur	35.1
	Bemetara	38.4
	Bilaspur	25.7
	Dhamtari	30.5
	Gariyaband	28.9
	Janjgir-Champa	32.5
	Kondagaon	37.6
	Korea	32.1
	Mungeli	30.1
	Raigarh	39.1
	Sukma	41.8
	Surajpur	27.6
	Surguja	29.4
Total	15	
Daman & Diu (UT)	Daman	30
Total	1	
Gujarat	Amreli	35.3
	Arvalli	47.1
	BanasKantha	39
	Bharuch	40.9
	Chhotaudepur	48.6
	Gandhinagar	38.1
	Kachchh	37.5
	Mahesana	31
	Mahisagar	43.4
	Morbi	32.9
	Navsari	36.8
	PanchMahals	47.1
	Patan	50.5
	Rajkot	38.9
	Surat	36.1
Tapi	41.7	
Total	16	
Haryana	Bhiwani	29
	CharkiDadri	23.9

	Gurugram	22.1
	Kaithal	29.9
	Karnal	29.2
	Kurukshetra	24.9
	Palwal	31
	Rohtak	28.9
	Sirsa	25
	Sonipat	23.6
	Yamunanagar	27.7
Total	11	
Himachal Pradesh	Una	24.7
Total	1	
Jammu & Kashmir	Badgam	26.8
	Baramulla	23.2
	Doda	32.7
	Kargil	District in Ladakh (36.5)
	Kathua	21.8
	Kupwara	24.9
	Rajauri	30.3
	Ramban	25.7
Total	8	
Jharkhand	Bokaro	36.2
	East Singhbhum	35.9
	Khunti	38.5
	Ramgarh	35.3
	Ranchi	28.3
	Simdega	42.2
Total	6	
Karnataka	Belgaum	32.8
	Chamarajanagar	32.2
	Chikballapur	31.3
	Dharwad	45.2
	Gadag	45.2
	Kodagu	30.4
	Kolar	31.1
	Raichur	39.8
	Shivamogga	29
	Uttar Kannad	29.6
Total	10	
Kerala	Kasaragod	25.3
Total	1	
Madhya Pradesh	Agar Malwa	40.3

	Anuppur	24
	Balaghat	41.9
	Betul	30.8
	Harda	38.8
	Hoshangabad	34.8
	Mandla	32.1
	Narsinghpur	32
	Rewa	37
	Sagar	42.7
	Satna	49.4
	Sehore	21.9
	Seoni	23.5
	Shahdol	44
Total	14	
Maharashtra	Akola	31.8
	Aurangabad	34.2
	Bhandara	31.3
	Latur	43.2
	Palghar	33
	Raigad	35.8
	Thane	40.8
Total	7	
Manipur	Noney	NA (Not available in NFHS-5)
	Prherzawl	NA
	Kamjong	NA
	Kakching	NA
	Kangpokpi	NA
	Churachandpur	25.1
	Senapati	27.3
	Tamenglong	27.1
	Thoubal	31.5
	Imphal West	15.6
	Ukhrul	27.1
Total	11	
Meghalaya	East Garo Hills	39.7
	North Garo Hills	35.6
	South Garo Hills	29.8
	South West Garo Hills	32.2
	South West Khasi Hills	51.4
	West Garo Hills	39.5
Total	6	
Mizoram	Aizwal	25.3

	Champhai	27.2
	Mamit	26.4
Total	3	
Nagaland	Mokokchung	31.4
	Mon	35.5
	Peren	34.9
	Zunheboto	44
Total	4	
NCT Of Delhi	Central	33.5
	North East	38.7
	South	33.4
	South East	21.7
	South West	27.1
Total	5	
Orissa	Anugul	28.1
	Baleshwar	24.4
	Bhadrak	32.3
	Cuttack	20.4
	Deogarh	28.4
	Dhenkanal	33.3
	Gajapati	43.4
	Ganjam	23.9
	Jajapur	25.5
	Jharsuguda	27.1
	Kalahandi	33
	Kandhamal	34.2
	Nuapada	43.1
	Sundargarh	32.9
Total	14	
Puducherry	Mahe	48.2
Total	1	
Punjab	Firozpur	30
	TaranTaran	23.8
	Moga	22
Total	3	
Rajasthan	Bhilwara	22.6
	Bikaner	22.8
	Bundi	30
	Ganganagar	24.5
	Hanumangarh	24.2
	Jaisalmer	25.5
	Jhalawar	34

	Nagaur	31.5
	Sikar	23.1
Total	9	
Sikkim	East District	17.8
	North Sikkim	31.8
	South District	24.8
Total	3	
Tamil Nadu	Ramanathapuram	26.4
	Thiruvallur	18.1
	Tiruchirappalli	27.6
	Tirunelveli	29.4
	KannyaKumari	17.3
	Virudhunagar	29.2
Total	6	
Telangana	JayashankarBhupalapally	32.5
	JogulambaGadwal	49.7
	Kamareddy	33.4
	Karimnagar	30.3
	Khammam	22.2
	KumuramBheem Asifabad	38.1
	Mancherial	25.9
	Medak	36.4
	Nagarkurnool	35.1
	Nalgonda	31.7
	Nirmal	31.7
	Nizamabad	30.5
	Sangareddy	32.9
	Siddipet	28.1
	Wanaparthy	40.4
	Warangal Urban	29.5
Total	16	
Tripura	West Tripura	30.3
Total	1	
Uttar Pradesh	Amethi	35.8
	Ballia	43.8
	Deoria	36.8
	Gautam Buddha Nagar	25.5
	Hapur	30.2
	Lalitpur	46.6
	Mathura	31.6
	Pratapgarh	35.5
	Saharanpur	28.8

	Sambhal	51.6
	Shamli	28.6
Total	11	
Uttarakhand	Almora	26
	Champawat	24.9
	Nainital	23.2
	Pithoragarh	25.6
	RudraPrayag	25.2
	Tehri Garhwal	29.3
Total	6	
West Bengal	Alipurduar	NA (newly formed)
	Bankura	30.3
	Coochbehar	28.7
	Darjeeling	34.3
	DinajpurDakshin	31.9
	Hooghly	28.9
	Jalpaiguri	28.9
	Medinipur East	25.8
	Medinipur West	31.1
	Nadia	26.1
	PaschimBardhaman	39.7
	PurbaBardhaman	32.7
Total	12	
Grand Total	235	
