GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2056
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.12.2024

PROTOCOL FOR IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT OF MALNUTRITION

2056. PROF. SOUGATA RAY:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

(a)   whether the Government has any Protocol for Identification and Management of Malnutrition among children in the country;

(b)   if so, the details thereof;

(c)   whether the Government is aware that over 32% of the children aged below five years are underweight;

(d)   if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e)   the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure the minimum wage and other parameters of children in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

(a) to (e) Ministries of Women & Child Development and Health & Family Welfare have jointly released the protocol for Community Management of Malnutrition (CMAM) to prevent and treat severely acute malnutrition in children and for reducing associated morbidity and mortality. The community-based approach involves timely detection and screening of children with severe acute malnutrition in the community, management for those without medical complications with wholesome, local nutritious foods at home and supportive medical care. Those malnourished children who have medical complications are referred for facility-based care.

Mission Poshan 2.0 brings a new strategy for reduction in malnutrition and for improved health, wellness and immunity through activities like community engagement, outreach, behavioral change, and advocacy. It focuses on Maternal Nutrition, Infant and Young Child Feeding Norms, treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)/ Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and wellness through AYUSH practices to reduce prevalence of wasting, stunting, anaemia and being underweight.

Various rounds of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare since 1992-93 have shown improvement in malnutrition

indicators in children across India. Details of these indicators for children since NFHS-1 to NFHS-5 are given below:

NFHS Survey	Stunting %	Underweight %	Wasting %
NFHS-1 (1992-93)*	52	53.4	17.5
NFHS-2 (1998-99)**	45.5	47	15.5
NFHS-3 (2005-6)***	48.0	42.5	19.8
NFHS-4 (2015-16)***	38.4	35.8	21.0
NFHS-5 (2019-21)***	35.5	32.1	19.3

* Under 4 years
** Under 3 years
*** Under 5 years

The above table gives a representative picture of malnutrition indicators among all children of 0-3 years, 0-4 years and 0-5 years age at the relevant time.

The projected population of all children up to 5 years in India for the year 2021 is 13.75 crores approximately (source: Population Projections for India and States 2011-2036, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare). However, only 7.54 crores children up to 5 years are enrolled in Anganwadis and registered on Poshan Tracker of the Ministry of Women & Child Development as per the October 2024 data. 7.31 crores of these children were measured on growth parameters of height and weight. 38.9% of these children have been found to be stunted, 17% children have been found to be underweight and 5.2% wasted.

Further, the projected population of all children in India up to 6 years for the year 2021 is approximately 16.1 crores (source: Population Projections for India and States 2011-2036, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare). As per the October 2024 data of Poshan Tracker, 8.82 crores children (0-6 years) are enrolled in Anganwadis out of whom 8.55 crores were measured on growth parameters of height and weight. 37% of these children (0-6 years) have been found to be stunted and 17% children (0-6 years) have been found to be underweight.

The analysis of the above NFHS data and the Poshan Tracker data shows improvement in the underweight indicator in children across India.

State/UT wise details of malnourished children (0 – 5 years) as per Poshan Tracker are **Annexed.**

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ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA QUESTION NO. 2056 FOR 6.12.2024 REGARDING "PROTOCOL FOR IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT OF MALNUTRITION" ASKED BY PROF. SOUGATA RAY

State wise details of malnourished children (0-5 years) in the country for October 2024 from Poshan Tracker are as follows:

State	Oct, 2024		
	Stunted (%)	Wasted (%)	Underweight (%)
Andhra Pradesh	22.6	5.3	10.8
Arunachal Pradesh	32.7	4.1	9.6
Assam	42.4	3.8	16.3
Bihar	43.8	9.2	22.9
Chhattisgarh	21.5	7.0	13.1
Goa	4.1	0.6	1.7
Gujarat	40.8	7.8	21.0
Haryana	28.2	4.1	8.7
Himachal Pradesh	18.4	1.7	6.3
Jharkhand	43.8	6.2	19.3
Karnataka	39.7	3.2	17.1
Kerala	34.4	2.3	9.5
Madhya Pradesh	46.5	6.9	26.5
Maharashtra	47.7	4.1	16.5
Manipur	7.7	0.3	2.6
Meghalaya	18.2	0.4	4.5
Mizoram	26.7	2.3	5.9
Nagaland	28.0	5.3	6.6
Odisha	29.1	2.9	12.8
Punjab	18.4	3.0	5.9
Rajasthan	36.6	5.5	17.7
Sikkim	9.2	1.5	1.7
Tamil Nadu	13.4	3.6	7.1
Telangana	32.6	5.6	16.2
Tripura	40.5	6.3	16.6
Uttar Pradesh	48.0	3.9	19.4
Uttarakhand	21.0	1.5	5.4
West Bengal	38.0	7.5	13.0
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8.7	2.3	3.9
Dadra & Nagar Haveli - Daman & Diu	35.9	3.3	16.1
Delhi	41.9	3.0	20.6
J&K	12.1	0.7	3.0
Ladakh	11.0	0.2	2.0
Lakshadweep	46.5	11.9	25.1
Puducherry	40.2	6.8	13.0
UT-Chandigarh	26.3	1.8	11.8

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