

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1106  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2016

**MALNUTRITION AMONG WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

1106: SHRI R.PARTHIPAN:  
SHRI NAGAR RODMAL:  
SHRI ABHISHEK SINGH:  
SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:  
SHRI LALLU SINGH:  
SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY:  
SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA:  
SHRI MD.: BADARUDOZUA KHAN  
SHRIJAGDAMBIKA PAL:  
SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:  
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:  
SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI VASAVA:  
DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:

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

- a) whether malnutrition among women and children is still prevalent in the country, particularly in tribal areas and is continuous to be highest in the world and if so, the facts thereof indicating the country's position in Human Index report of United Nations Organisation;
- b) the number of malnourished (Severe Acute Malnutrition and Moderate Acute Malnutrition), underweight and stunted women and children in the country and the reasons therefore along with deaths reported therefrom, State/UT-wise;
- c) the details/objectives of the schemes including National Nutrition Mission (NAM) being implemented for eradication of malnutrition and the funds allocated/ released, utilized and achievements made thereunder during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme and State/UT-wise;
- d) whether the funds crunch under the NAM has adversely affected malnutrition eradication programmes and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- e) the further measures taken by the Government to make available benefits of schemes to the targeted beneficiaries and eradicate malnutrition from the country?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) As per Rapid Survey on Children (RSoC), 2013-14, there is a reduction in level of underweight among children under 5 years of age from 42.5% in NFHS-3 (2005-06) to 29.4%, stunting from 48% in NFHS-3 to 38.7% and wasting from 19.8% in NFHS-3 to 15.1% in RSoC. Among the ST population, there is a reduction in level of underweight among children under 5 years of age from 54.5% in NFHS-3 (2005-06) to 36.7%, stunting from 53.9% in NFHS-3 to 42.3% and wasting from 27.6% in NFHS-3 to 18.7% in RSoC. Further, as per NFHS-3, 29.4 % women of reproductive age are undernourished while 46.6 % of women belonging to Schedule Tribes (ST) are undernourished.

As per Human Development Report 2015 released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), India has been placed at 130<sup>th</sup> position in the Human Development Index (HDI) among the 188 countries.

(b) Malnutrition is a multi- faceted problem. The important determinants are inadequate food, level of poverty leading to low purchasing power, poor socio-economic status of women, female illiteracy, high rate of population growth and low access of population to health education, safe drinking water, environmental, sanitation, hygiene and other social services. Malnutrition is not a direct cause of death but contributes to increased morbidity and mortality by reducing resistance to infections. The State-wise prevalence of malnutrition among women and children in the country is at **Annexure-I & II**.

(c to e) The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is implementing several schemes/programmes of different Ministries/Departments through State Governments/UT Administrations to address one or other aspect related to Nutrition. This Ministry is implementing Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, 'Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG)–'Sabla', and Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) as direct targeted interventions to address the problem of malnutrition among women and children. The details of these schemes is available in the Annual Report (2014-15) of the Ministry, which is available in the Library of Lok Sabha Secretariat and is also available on the Ministry's website, [www.wcd.nic.in](http://www.wcd.nic.in)

Additionally, the Food and Nutrition Board of the Ministry, through its 43 regional field units, is engaged in conducting training programmes in nutrition, in addition to advocacy towards generating awareness through nutrition education programmes on the importance of healthy balanced diets especially through the use of locally available foods, mass awareness campaigns and use of electronic and print media.

Further, under the National Nutrition Mission, there are two components, namely

- Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaign against malnutrition: In order to create awareness about nutrition challenges and promote home level feeding practices, a nationwide Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaign was launched during the years 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15.
- Multi-sectoral Nutrition programme to address Maternal and Child Under-Nutrition in 200 high-burden districts, which aims at prevention and reduction in child under-nutrition (underweight prevalence in children under 3 years of age) and reduction in levels of anaemia among young children, adolescent girls and women.

The budgetary allocation made and funds utilized under the National Nutrition Mission (NNM) during last three years and the current year is as below:

Financial Year	Budget Estimates (Rs in Crore)	Revised Estimates (Rs in Crore)	Expenditure (Rs in Crore)
2013-14	300.00	200.00	123.00
2014-15	300.00	20.00	20.00
2015-16	205.79	65.00	--

The objective of the new NNM is to ensure that every child, adolescent girl and woman attains optimal nutritional status. The focus is on preventing and reducing under nutrition among the mothers and under-six years' children.

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**Annexure-I**

<b>Nutritional Status of Children under 5 years of age</b>						
<b>State</b>	<b>Underweight</b>		<b>Stunting</b>		<b>Wasting</b>	
	<b>NFHS-3 (2005-06) (below 5 yrs)</b>	<b>RSoC (2013-14) (below 5 yrs)</b>	<b>NFHS-3 (2005-06) (below 5 yrs)</b>	<b>RSoC (2013-14) (below 5 yrs)</b>	<b>NFHS-3 (2005-06) (below 5 yrs)</b>	<b>RSoC (2013-14) (below 5 yrs)</b>
Andhra Pradesh	32.5	22.3	42.7	35.4	12.2	19
Arunachal Pradesh	32.5	24.6	43.3	28.4	15.3	17
Assam	36.4	22.2	46.5	40.6	13.7	9.7
Bihar	55.9	37.1	55.6	49.4	27.1	13.1
Chhattisgarh	47.1	33.9	52.9	43	19.5	12.9
Delhi	26.1	19.4	42.2	29.1	15.4	14.3
Goa	25	16.2	25.6	21.3	14.1	15.4
Gujarat	44.6	33.6	51.7	41.6	18.7	18.7
Haryana	39.6	22.7	45.7	36.5	19.1	8.8
Himachal Pradesh	36.5	19.5	38.6	34.2	19.3	10.1
J&K	25.6	15.4	35	31.7	14.8	7.1
Jharkhand	56.5	42.1	49.8	47.4	32.3	15.6
Karnataka	37.6	28.9	43.7	34.2	12.6	17
Kerala	22.9	18.5	24.5	19.4	15.9	15.5
Madhya Pradesh	60	36.1	50	41.5	35	17.5
Maharashtra	37	25.2	46.3	35.4	16.5	18.6
Manipur	22.1	14.1	35.6	33.2	9	7.1
Meghalaya	48.8	30.9	55.1	42.9	30.7	13.1
Mizoram	19.9	14.8	39.8	26.9	9	14.3
Nagaland	25.2	19.5	38.8	29.1	13.3	11.8
Orissa	40.7	34.4	45	38.2	19.5	18.3
Punjab	24.9	16	36.7	30.5	9.2	8.7
Rajasthan	39.9	31.5	43.7	36.4	20.4	14.1
Sikkim	19.7	15.8	38.3	28	9.7	5.1
Tamil Nadu	29.8	23.3	30.9	23.3	22.2	19
Tripura	39.6	30.5	35.7	31	24.6	17.1
Uttar Pradesh	42.4	34.3	56.8	50.4	14.8	10
Uttarakhand	38	20.6	44.4	34	18.8	9.3
West Bengal	38.7	30	44.6	34.7	16.9	15.3
<b>INDIA</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>38.7</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>15.1</b>

**Prevalence of under nourished women (BMI <18.5) in 15-49 years  
NFHS 3 (2005-06)**

Sl. No.	State/UTs	% Underweight Women (age 15 - 49 yrs) (BMI below normal)
1	Andhra Pradesh	33.5
2	Assam	36.5
3	Arunachal Pradesh	16.4
4	Bihar	45.1
5	Chhattisgarh	43.4
6	Delhi	14.8
7	Goa	27.9
8	Gujarat	36.3
9	Haryana	31.3
10	Himachal Pradesh	29.9
11	J&K	24.6
12	Jharkhand	43.0
13	Karnataka	35.5
14	Kerala	18.0
15	Madhya Pradesh	41.7
16	Maharashtra	36.2
17	Manipur	14.8
18	Meghalaya	14.6
19	Mizoram	14.4
20	Nagaland	17.4
21	Orissa	41.4
22	Punjab	18.9
23	Rajasthan	36.7
24	Sikkim	11.2
25	Tamil Nadu	28.4
26	Tripura	36.9
27	Uttar Pradesh	36.0
28	Uttrakhand	30.0
29	West Bengal	39.1
	<b>India</b>	<b>35.6</b>