

Living standards of women

†431. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any assessment has been made through National Family Health Survey regarding living standard of women and their getting married at a young age ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof: and
- (c) the details of measures Government is considering to take on the basis of this survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) The National Family Health Survey (NFHS 3) (2005-06) does not contain any gender disaggregated data on living standards. However, it does contain information on the age of marriage.

- (b) Some of the findings of NFHS 3 can be summarised as follows:
 - (1) The median age at first marriage among women is 17.2 years.
 - (2) The median age at marriage for women in the age group of 25-47 is only 16.8 years,
 - (3) In the 13 years since NFHS-1 (1992-93), the median age and marriage among women in the age group of 25-49 has risen by less than one year;
 - (4) There has been a one third decline in the proportion of women in the age group of 20-24, who are married before the age of 15.
- (c) The Government uses data from National Family Health Surveys and others sources for formulation of policies, programmes & schemes.

Malnutrition among children

432. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH :

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that malnutrition among children has increased in some States ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof: and
- (c) whether, according to the National Family Health Survey-III, it has been revealed that malnutrition among children in some States is at an alarming level ; and
- (d) if so, the steps Government proposes to address the problem of malnutrition in an effective way?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) to (c) The undernutrition amongst children below 3 years has reduced from 42.7% in 1998-99 (NFHS-2) to 40.4% in 2005-06 (NFHS-3). However, data on State-wise comparison of under nutrition between NFHS-2 & NFHS-3 is not available.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.