

inspections are undertaken for smooth functioning of the hospitals by the Hospital Authorities. Director General of Health Service is the overall in charge of the Central Government Hospital administration, under his supervision regular and frequent monitoring and inspection are carried out to monitor the working of these hospitals.

Prevention of malnutrition among children

1023. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rate of malnutrition among Indian children has been on the rise as reported by the Child Development Index 2012;
- (b) if so, the current rate of malnutrition and the rate of increase from the previous year among children below the age of five;
- (c) the measures being taken to reduce malnutrition among children; and
- (d) to what extent these measures have been effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) and (b) Child Development Index is a composite index which considers Child mortality, access to primary education and under nutrition. As per Child Development Index (CDI) 2012, India is positioned at 112th rank, whereas India was ranked 103rd in 2000-04.

There is no specific country-wise information regarding rise in the rate of malnutrition in the report on Child Development Index 2012.

(c) In the reproductive and child health programme of NRHM, the remedial steps taken are as follows:—

- Promotion of appropriate infant and young child feeding practices that include early initiation of breast-feeding and exclusive breast-feeding till 6 months of age.
- Management of malnutrition and common neonatal and childhood illnesses at community and facility level by training service providers in IMNCI (Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses) training.
- Treatment of children with severe acute malnutrition at special units called the Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs), set up at public health facilities. Presently 564 such centres are functional all over the country.
- Specific program to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies of Vitamin A and Iron and Folic Acid. Vitamin A supplementation for children till the age of 5 years and Iron and Folic Acid supplementation for children 6 to 60 months.

- Village Health and Nutrition Days and Mother and Child Protection Card are the joint initiative of the Ministries of Health and Family welfare and the Ministry of Woman and Child for addressing the nutrition concerns in children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.
- Nutrition Education on VHNDs (Village Health and Nutrition Days) to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breast-feeding.
- Growth monitoring of children upto three years by promoting use of Mother and Child Protection card.

(d) The recent HUNGaMA survey (2010-11) shows that in the 100 Focus Districts, the prevalence of child underweight has decreased from 53.1 per cent (DLHS 2, 2002-04) to 42 per cent (HUNGaMA 2011); this represents a 20.3 per cent decrease over 7 year period with an average annual rate of reduction of 2.9 per cent.

Nicotine content in gutka products

†1024. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that high concentration of nicotine is found in gutka products of companies like Dilbaag, Sanjog, Shikhar, Swagat etc.; and
- (b) if so, the action taken against such companies under the Food Safety and Standards Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) and (b) As per Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulations, 2011, use of tobacco and nicotine are prohibited in the food products.

Enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and Rules and Regulations made thereunder lies with the State/UT Governments. Some States viz. Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana and Kerala have already banned gutka.

Allocation of funds to Rajasthan for medical facilities

†1025. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds provided by the Central Government to the State Government of Rajasthan for the expansion of rural medical facilities during the last three years; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.