

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 in the country including Andhra Pradesh. The schemes/programmes include the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Schemes for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG) namely SABLA, Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojna (IGMSY) as direct targeted interventions. Besides, indirect Multi-sectoral interventions include Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), National Horticulture Mission, National Food Security Mission, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Total Sanitation Campaign, National Rural Drinking Water Programme etc. All these schemes have potential to address one or other aspect of Nutrition.

Government has recently decided to strengthen and restructure ICDS with special focus on pregnant and lactating mothers and children under three and to launch an effective information, education and communication campaign against malnutrition.

#### **Sectoral Innovation Council on Child Sex Ratio**

2148. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a 'Sectoral Innovation Council' on Child Sex Ratio (CSR), if so, give the details thereof;

(b) the measures proposed by the Council to address the decline in CSR in time bound and effective manner; and;

(c) whether Government has made attempts to identify particular districts or the State or the societies/castes etc. having low CSR, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Government had set up a 'Sectoral Innovation Council' on Declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR), under the Chairpersonship of the then Member Secretary of National Commission for Women with the objective of looking at the entire gamut of issues connected with the declining CSR with a purpose of identifying interventions, suggesting innovative strategies, approaches and methods of intervention to address the decline in CSR problem in a time bound and effective manner. The Council has submitted its Report to the Government, in which the Council has made recommendations for robust

implementation of law, strategy for effective communication and strategy for advocacy.

(c) The districts with low Child Sex Ratio are identified in the Census Report 2011.

#### **Committee on the status of women**

2149. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted a high level committee on status of women since 1989;

(b) if so, the terms of reference and composition of the Committee;

(c) whether the Committee has given its report so that the recommendations can be included in the Twelfth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if not, how long it would take for the committee to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has set up a High Level Committee on the status of women to undertake comprehensive study to understand the status of women since 1989 as well as to evolve appropriate policy interventions based on a contemporary assessment of women's needs.

(b) The composition of the Committee is as under:

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I.	Justice Ruma Pal	Chairperson
II.	Prof. Bina Agarwal	Member
III.	Dr. Amita Singh	Member
IV.	Dr. Pam Rajput	Member
V.	Ms. Rita Sarin	Member
VI.	Dr. Manorma Singh	Member
VII.	Dr. Shantha Krishnan	Member
VIII.	Dr. Nirmala Devi	Member

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