

Sl. No.	State	Women (15-49 yrs) %
26.	Tripura	65.1
27.	Uttar Pradesh	49.9
28.	Uttarakhand	55.2
29.	West Bengal	63.2
	INDIA	55.3

#### Deaths due to malnutrition

328. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether one in every three malnourished children in the world lives in India;
- (b) whether malnutrition causes about 50 per cent of all childhood deaths;
- (c) whether malnourished children are less likely to perform well in school, are more likely to grow into malnourished adults and are at a greater risk of disease and early death;
- (d) whether Government proposes to improve delivery system of the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme or increase the per day per child expenditure of ₹ 2.70 on severely malnourished children, to remedy the alarming situation that currently exists; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) The data of malnutrition is captured under National Family Health Surveys and as per the latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS) - 3 (2005-06), 42.5 per cent of the children under 5 years of age are underweight, 48 per cent are stunted and 19.8 per cent are wasted. The rate of malnutrition has declined from 42.7% in 1998-99 (NFHS-2) to 40.4% in 2005-06 (NFHS-3) for children below 3 years of age.

(b) Malnutrition is a multi-faceted problem and is not a direct cause of death but contributes to mortality and morbidity by reducing resistance to infections.

(c) The consequences of malnutrition, if not corrected early, may limit learning and cognitive abilities leading to poor school performance, low work productivity,

low income and poverty. Therefore, in order to address this problem, the Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition in the country. This Ministry is implementing several schemes/programs such as Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS), Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG) namely SABLA, Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) as direct targeted interventions.

(d) and (e) The Restructured and Strengthened ICDS Scheme has already been rolled out to address various programmatic, management and institutional gaps and meet administrative and operational challenges. Roll out of Restructured and Strengthened ICDS has taken place as per the following schedule:

- (i) In 200 high burden districts in the first year (2012-13);
- (ii) In additional 200 districts in second year (2013-14) (*i.e. w.e.f. 1.4.2013*) including districts from special category States and NER;
- (iii) In remaining districts in third year (2014-15) (*i.e. w.e.f. 1.4.2014*).

A special focus has been given to children under 3 years and pregnant and lactating mothers, which is the critical period, including other key features including care and nutrition counseling services, care of severely underweight children, a provision for an additional Anganwadi Worker cum Nutrition Counselor for focus on children under 3 years of age and to improve the family contact, care and nutrition counseling for P&L Mothers in the selected 200 high-burden districts across the country, besides having provision of link worker, and improving Supplementary Nutrition Programme including cost revision.

Under the restructured ICDS, Government has revised the cost of supplementary nutrition for different category of beneficiaries after strengthening and restructuring of ICDS. The revised rates are ₹ 9.00 per beneficiary per day for severely malnourished children.

#### **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme**

329. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has selected certain districts for implementation of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme at village, block and district level;