

(b) and (c) The Government of India has enacted the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA) 2006 which is a progressive law that prohibits the child marriages and punishes those who promote, perform and abet child marriages.

Indian lagging behind in Global Nutrition Report

2137. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the recent report called Global Nutrition Report released by WHO has indicated that India lags behind many sub-saharan poor African countries in reducing under-nutrition rate; and

(b) if so, the programmes/schemes run by Government to tackle under-nutrition and the budget allocation for each of such programmes/schemes as well as actual amount spent for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. Global Nutrition Report, 2016, has indicated that in terms of progress in decline in child undernutrition rates, India lags behind many countries in Africa south of the Sahara. However, the report also states that regionally, the number of stunted children in Africa is rising, elsewhere stunting numbers are declining.

Further, the malnutrition levels in the country have shown a declining trend since as per the Rapid Survey on Children (RSoC), 2013-14, commissioned by Ministry of Women and Child Development, there is a reduction in underweight among children under 5 years of age from 42.5% in NFHS-3 to 29.4%, stunting from 48.0% in NFHS-3 to 38.7% and wasting from 19.8% in NFHS-3 to 15.1% in RSoC.

(b) Malnutrition is complex, multi-dimensional and inter-generational in nature, needing convergence of interventions, coordination and concerted action from various sectors. The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is implementing several schemes/programmes of different Ministries/Departments through States/UTs to address one or other aspects related to nutrition.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Rajiv Gandhi Schemes for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG) namely SABLA, Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojna

(IGMSY) as direct targeted interventions with an aim to improve nutritional outcomes and bring down the level of malnutrition in the country especially amongst women and children.

The budget allocation for these schemes as well as the amount spent for the last three years is given in the Statement.

Statement

Budgetary allocation and expenditure under ICDS scheme (Rupees in crores)

Sl. No.	Year	Budget Allocation (BE)	Budget Allocation (RE)	Expenditure	Percentage w.r.t. RE
1.	2013-14	17,700.00	16,312.00	16,267.49	99.73%
2.	2014-15	18,195.00	16561.60	16581.82*	100.12%
3.	2015-16	8335.77	15483.77	15438.93	99.71%

* This includes saving from other schemes during the year.

Budgetary allocation and expenditure under IGMSY scheme:

Year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Budget Allocation (Rs in crores)	B.E 500	B.E 400	B.E 438
Funds Released (Rs in crores)	R.E-300	R.E-358.00	RE- 233.5
Actual Expenditure (Rs in crores)	232.05	343.15	232.99

Budgetary allocation and expenditure under SABLA scheme:

Year	Allocation (in ₹ Crores)	Total Released /Expenditure (Nutrition+ Non Nutrition) (in ₹ Crores)	
		Released	Utilized
2012-13	BE: 750.00 RE: 504.00	478.90	619.27
2013-14	BE: 650.00 RE: 614.00	575.36	655.15
2014-15	BE: 700.00 RE: 630.00	610.21	645.22
2015-16	BE: 75.50 RE: 475.50	470.40	458.27