

Nutritional guidelines for children

1107. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there exists considerable vagueness with regard to nutritional guidelines for children in India;

(b) whether the Ministry has ever issued any such authenticated nutritional guidelines for children, if so, the steps to make the general masses aware of the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) The nutritional guidelines for all age groups of the population including children have been formulated by the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Indian Council for Medical Research in the country.

(b) and (c) The Ministry has issued the guidelines for Supplementary Nutrition under the ICDS Scheme to bridge the gap between Actual Daily Intake and the Recommended Dietary Allowances recommended by NIN. Further, the nutritional standards for children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years required to be met under the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme have been prescribed under Schedule-II of the National Food Security Act, 2013. The above guidelines have been placed in the public domain and also shared with all the States/UTs for compliance.

Report on children living in extreme poverty

1108. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agrees with a report compiled by World Bank and UNICEF that, India is the home to over 30 per cent of almost 385 million children living in extreme poverty all over the world; and

(b) if not, what are the alternate views of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) and (b) The record of number of children living in poverty is not maintained by this Ministry. However, as per the report of World Bank and UNICEF entitled "Ending Extreme Poverty: a Focus on Children", 30.3% of 385 million children living in extreme poverty all over the world are in India.