

- (i) National Guidelines on Infant and Young Child Feeding, 2006, have been issued, through which optimal Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices including breastfeeding are emphasised.
- (ii) Infant Milk Substitutes Feeding Bottles, and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1993, as amended in 2003, has been enacted in the country to protect, promote and support breastfeeding and ensure proper use of infant foods.
- (iii) The restructured ICDS Mission also aims to increase Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices in the country. Under the Care and Nutrition Counseling component, focus is to provide counseling to women on issues relating to infant feeding practices.
- (iv) The Maternity Benefit Program (MBP), which is a centrally sponsored Conditional Maternity Benefit scheme of the Ministry for pregnant and lactating women, encourages women to follow optimal Infant and Young Child Feeding practices including early and exclusive breast feeding for the first six months. Under the scheme, cash incentives are provided partly compensating for their wage loss subject to fulfilment of health and nutrition conditions, which includes exclusive breastfeeding until the child is 6 months of age.
- (v) Food and Nutrition Board under the Ministry is engaged in creating awareness on health and nutrition issues with strong focus on 'Infant and Young Child Feeding' (IYCF). "World Breastfeeding Week" is also celebrated every year from 1-7 August by organizing various activities such as State level Workshop/Seminar, lecture-cum-practical demonstration, etc. for creating greater awareness. Awareness is also generated through audio-visual medium for promotion of optimal IYCF.
- (vi) Recently, Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA) programme has been launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to promote and strengthen breastfeeding through health system strengthening.

Anaemia in women

3353. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 48 per cent of women in India are anaemic and suffer from malnutrition;
- (b) whether the Ministry has taken any steps to address this issue and if so,

whether the budgetary allocations and targets have been fixed under different schemes of the Ministry and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry would consider increasing the budgetary allocations for the National Nutrition Mission and set targets thereunder and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) As per the recent report of National Family Health Survey (NFHS) - 4, 2015-16 conducted by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2015-16, 53% women are anaemic and 22.9% women (15-49 years of age) have chronic energy deficiency (BMI less than 18.5) in the country.

(b) This Ministry is implementing Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme/Scheme for Adolescent Girls and Maternity Benefit Programme (MBP) as direct targeted interventions to address the problem of anaemia and malnutrition in women.

Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and within its umbrella the Reproductive and Child Health Programme, the steps being taken by GOI to address anaemia and malnutrition in Pregnant women include:—

- (i) Universal screening of pregnant women for anaemia is a part of ante-natal care and all pregnant women are provided iron and folic acid tablets during their ante-natal visits through the existing network of sub-centers and primary health centers and other health facilities as well as through outreach activities at Village Health & Nutrition Days (VHNDs).
- (ii) Every pregnant woman is given iron and folic acid, after the first trimester, to be taken 1 tablet daily and same is continued during the post natal period. Pregnant women, who are found to be clinically anaemic, are given additional 1 tablet for taking two tablets daily. This has been now expanded to 6 month during ANC and 6 month during PNC.
- (iii) Every pregnant woman is given Tab. Calcium, after the first trimester, to be taken 2 tablets daily and same is continued during the post natal period. This has been now expanded to 6 month during ANC and 6 month during PNC.
- (iv) Every pregnant woman is given one Tablet of Albendazole after the first trimester for deworming.
- (v) Government of India has given directions to the States for identification and tracking of severely anaemic cases at all the sub centres and PHCs for their timely management.

- (vi) Health and nutrition education through IEC & BCC to promote dietary diversification, inclusion of iron folate rich food as well as food items that promotes iron absorption.
- (vii) Both the Health management information system and mother child tracking system are reporting the cases of anaemic and severely anaemic pregnant women.
- (viii) 184 High Priority Districts (HPDs) have been identified and prioritized for Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child Health+ Adolescent (RMNCH+A) interventions for achieving improved maternal and child health outcomes.
- (ix) Safe Motherhood Booklet is being distributed to the pregnant women for educating them on dietary diversification and promotion of consumption of IFA.

There is no separate budgetary allocation for anaemia in pregnant women in the PIP and it comes under overall budget for maternal health as per the proposal received from the States in their Annual Project Implementation Plan (PIP)

Additionally, the Food and Nutrition Board of the Ministry, through its regional field units, is engaged in conducting training programmes in nutrition, in addition to advocacy towards generating awareness through nutrition education programmes on the importance of healthy balanced diets especially through the use of locally available foods, mass awareness campaigns and use of electronic and print media.

The main aim of all these activities is to improve nutritional outcomes and bring down the level of anaemia and malnutrition in women in the country.

The budgetary allocation made and expenditure incurred during the last three years is as follows:—

Financial Year	ICDS		Scheme for AGs		MBP	
	Budget Allocation (₹ in crore)	Expenditure incurred (₹ in crore)	Budget Allocation (₹ in crore)	Expenditure incurred (₹ in crore)	Budget Allocation (₹ in crore)	Expenditure incurred (₹ in crore)
2013-14	5866.69	12501.26*	575.36	657.22	300.00	232.05
2014-15	6711.91	14596.71*	610.32	674.25	358.00	343.15
2015-16	8048.73	13255.93*	470.41	494.79	233.50	230.72

* Expenditure including State share.

(c) The goal of National Nutrition Mission (NNM) is to achieve improvement in nutritional status of Children (0-6 years), Adolescent Girls and Pregnant Women &

Lactating Mothers in a time bound manner from the time of implementation with fixed targets.

Selling fake forms for Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

3354. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the sale of fake forms in Uttar Pradesh in the name of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Scheme promising two lakh rupees to the girls and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) and (b) Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) is a flagship programme of Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), Government of India to change the mindsets of society to value the girl child and empower her. The scheme mainly focuses on challenging mindsets and deep rooted patriarchy in the societal system, strict enforcement of PC&PNDT Act, advancing education of the girl child: focus is on issues of women empowerment on a life cycle continuum. BBBP scheme has no provision for individual cash incentive/cash transfer component by Government of India and thus is not a DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) scheme. This fraudulent activity of duping people by falsely promising fake cash benefits in the name of BBBP was brought to the notice of Ministry of Women and Child Development through complaints/copies of fraudulent forms being filled by people and sent to Office of MWCD. The false promise was to provide ₹ 2 lakhs to a girl child between the age 8 and 32 years on filling the fake forms, which were eventually sent to Ministry of WCD.

Over 3 lakh fake/illegal forms have been received by this Ministry so far which were reported to have fraudulently sold in many cases and filled in the name of girls and sending to Ministry for providing cash disbursements under BBBP. The fraudulent activity started in some districts of Uttar Pradesh. The Ministry of Women and Child Development took immediate action and preventive measures to contain this problem by taking up the matter with concerned State Government Authorities where this illegal activity has taken place as reported namely Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Bihar and Delhi. FIRs have been filed in some districts. A disclaimer has been uploaded on website of the Ministry. Press releases were also issued which were carried out in leading newspapers in Hindi and English. This Ministry has also launched a media publicity campaign through Doordarshan/AIR and other radio stations as well as through newspapers alerting general public on the issue. The case has been handed