

(iii) Intensified Malaria Elimination Project (IMEP) under National Vector Borne Diseases Control Programme (NVBDCP), which is currently supported by the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) in 7 North Eastern states. Under this, two local NGOs are engaged for implementing anti-malaria activities in high malaria endemic districts of Meghalaya (Bakdil in two districts - East Garo Hills and South Garo Hills) and the Centre for Peace & Development (CPD) is engaged in Mizoram in three districts - Lunglei, Lawngtlai and Mamit.

(iv) Under National AIDS Control Programme (NACP), the respective State AIDS Control Society (SACS) engages NGOs to implement Targeted Interventions (TI) and Link Worker Schemes (LWS) for providing and facilitating various HIV prevention services to the High Risk Groups (HRGs).

As on 30th September 2019, there are 220 Targeted Intervention and 14 Link Worker Schemes (LWS) are run by various NGOs/ CBOs across the North Eastern states.

A sum of ₹ 996.89 Lakh has been allocated to NGOs for implementing Targeted Intervention (TI) and Link Worker Schemes (LWS) during the current financial year 2019-20 through Mizoram State AIDS Control Society (SACS).

The assessment of role of NGOs is conducted by the State and Districts at local level.

UNICEF's State of the World's Children Report 2019

1690. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recently released UNICEF's State of the World's Children Report 2019 indicate that every second child in India is affected by some form of malnutrition;

(b) whether the report says that 87 per cent of children in our country are either stunted or wasted or underweight or combination of these;

(c) if so, the reasons for Ministry's justification that there is reduction of 3.7 per cent in stunting and underweight by 2.3 per cent between 2016 and 2018;

(d) whether extant schemes and programmes have little impact on achieving objectives; and

- (e) how Ministry is planning to go ahead in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) to (d) As per the recently released report of UNICEF's State of the World's Children Report 2019. 38% of the under five children are stunted and 21% are wasted. There is no mention about 87% children being either stunted or wasted or underweight or combination of these.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India with support from UNICEF has conducted the first ever Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey (CNNS), during year 2016 to 2018 in 30 States. The CNNS results highlight improvements by reduction in stunting (height for age), wasting (weight for height) and underweight (weight for age) in children below five years of age from 38.4% to 34.7% (3.7%), 21.0% to 17.3% and 35.7% to 33.4% (2.3%) respectively in comparison to NFHS-4, 2015-16.

(e) The Government of India has launched POSHAN (Prime Minister Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment) Abhiyaan, to address malnutrition in India through convergence, behaviour change, IEC advocacy, training and capacity building, use of technology, innovations and demand generation. POSHAN Abhiyaan focuses on educating families on the need for nutrition and motivating them on adopting these into their behaviour. The promotion of locally available nutritious food through various community based events (CBEs), exhibitions, rallies, workshops and meetings is one of the strategy under the POSHAN Abhiyaan.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) is an important stakeholder of the POSHAN Abhiyaan. Anaemia Mukht Bharat (AMB) strategy, defeat diarrhea initiative, Mother's Absolute Affection Programme (MAA), Immunization, Home Based Newborn Care (HBNC) and Home Based Care of Young Children (HBYC) are the important components of the POSHAN Abhiyaan implemented by MoHFW.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) is implementing various health and nutrition interventions under National Health Mission (NHM) which are as follows:

- Promotion of Institutional deliveries through cash incentive under Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) and Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) which entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions

to absolutely free delivery including Caesarean section, post-natal care and treatment of sick infants till one year of age. Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) is another maternity benefit programme under which cash incentive of ₹ 5000 is provided to pregnant women and lactating mothers.

- Early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding for first six months and appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices are promoted under Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA) in convergence with Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- Home Based Care for Young Children (HBYC) has been initiated as an extension of Home Based Newborn Care (HBNC) to provide community based care by ASHA workers with focus on improvement in child rearing practices, nutrition counseling and breastfeeding promotion till 15th month of life.
- Treatment of sick children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) at special units called the Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs), set up at public health facilities.
- Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) is being supported to provide vaccination to children against life threatening diseases such as Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio, Tetanus, Hepatitis B, Measles, Rubella, Pneumonia and Meningitis caused by Haemophilus Influenzae B. The Rotavirus vaccination has also been rolled out in the country for prevention of Rotaviral diarrhoea. "Mission Indradhanush is targeted to immunize children who are either unvaccinated or partially vaccinated *i.e.* those that have not been covered during the rounds of routine immunization for various reasons.
- Vitamin A supplementation (VAS) for children till the age of 5 years.
- National De-worming Day as a fixed day strategy to administer Albendazole tablets to all the children in the age group of 1-19 years through the platform of AWCs and schools for good nutritional outcomes and prevention of anaemia.

- Prevention of childhood illness such as diarrheal diseases which in turn prevents childhood malnutrition. Control of childhood diarrhoea is being carried out by conducting annual Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF) and Defeat Diarrhoea Initiative.
- 'Anemia Mukht Bharat (AMB)' for supplementation and treatment of anaemia in children, adolescents, pregnant and lactating women, and women of reproductive age group in programme mode through life cycle approach. This involves, bi-weekly IFA syrup supplementation to children 6-59 months, weekly IFA tablet supplementation to children 5-10 years and adolescents 10-19 years, and IFA tablets to pregnant and lactating women.
- Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Days (VHSNDs) are observed for provision of maternal and child health services and creating awareness on maternal and child care in convergence with Ministry of Women and Child Development. Health and nutrition education through mass and social media is also promoted to improve healthy practices and to generate demand for service uptake.
- Mother and Child Protection Card is the joint initiative of the Ministry of Health & Family welfare and the Ministry of Woman and Child Development which addresses the nutrition concerns in children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.
- Under "Rastriya Bal Swasthya Karyakaram" (RBSK) children of 0 - 18 years of age are screened for selected health conditions classified into 4Ds - Diseases, Deficiencies, Defects and Developmental delays including screening for Severe Acute Mal-nutrition and provides free referral and treatment facilities for identified children.
- The Government is also promoting use of fortified wheat flour, fortified rice, fortified oil and double fortified salt in public funded supplementary nutrition programmes.

All these programs address one or other aspects related to nutrition and have the potential to improve nutritional outcomes in the country.