

**Need to revise cost norms for supplementary nutrition in the interest of children and women-Laid**

**SHRI MANISH TEWARI (CHANDIGARH):** According to NFHS-5, 35.5% of children under five are stunted, 19.3% are wasted, and 32.1% are underweight, while 57% of women aged 15-49 years are anaemic. Despite this, the budgetary allocation for Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0 for FY 2024-25 was reduced by 3.14% from last year's revised estimates. Comprehensive guidelines under MISSION SAKSHAM ANGANWADI AND POSHAN 2.0 for the Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) were issued in January 2021, but ground realities remain dire. The cost norms for supplementary nutrition, last revised in October 2017, have not kept pace with inflation. Based on the 2012 base year, the Consumer Food Price Index rose from 139.4 in 2017 to 211.1 by October 2024, a 71.7 points increase. Current norms fail to reflect the rising prices of key inputs like pulses, oils, and vitamins. To address India's hunger and nutritional deficiencies, a multi-pronged approach is essential, with increased budgetary allocations and improved disbursement mechanisms. I urge the Government to promptly revise cost norms for supplementary nutrition in the interest of children and women.