

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2332
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2003
NUTRITIONAL LEVELS IN DROUGHT AFFECTED STATES
SRINIVASULU KALAVA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, has conducted any survey to assess the nutritional levels in drought affected States;
- (b) if so, the States covered under the survey;
- (c) the findings thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps being taken to prevent the under-nutrition in drought affected regions particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Medical Research's National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (with the Central Reference Laboratory at the National Institution of Nutrition at Hyderabad) has undertaken a survey during May-July, 2003 to assess the diet and nutritional status of population in the drought affected areas of the nine States namely Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. Based on preliminary findings, it has been reported that there have been no starvation deaths in these States. However, several nutrition intervention programmes like Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), distribution of massive dose of vitamin A and Iron folic acid are being implemented in all the affected States including Andhra Pradesh. In addition, the programmes such as widow/old age pension, Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Food for Work Programme are being implemented which are targeted towards the poor socio-economic group of people to improve their nutritional status.