

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:212
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005
NUTRITIONAL AND HEALTH RELATED REQUIREMENTS
Chandel Shri Suresh

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

- (a) whether an analysis of the latest figures of the National Sample Survey has shown that there are eight States in the Country where more than one-third of the rural population is deprived of intake of even 1800 calories per day;
- (b) if so, the names of such States;
- (c) whether nearly three-fourth of the rural population, that is almost one-half of the population of the country, is unable to access the minimum nutritional and health-related requirements should the correct standards be applied and intake of less than 2400 calories per day be taken as the benchmark for poverty;
- (d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to deal with this situation; and
- (e) the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 212 FOR 7TH DECEMBER, 2005.

(a)&(b): As per the 55th round of National Sample Survey (NSS) conducted in the 15 states in the year 1999-2000, the average per capita per day intake of Calories in rural India is 2149. The state-wise details are at Annexure-I.

(c)&(d): The estimate of the Planning Commission based the consumer expenditure data of the 55th round on a 30 day recall basis provided a poverty ratio of 27.09% in rural areas of the country in 1999-2000. The Government has been implementing various schemes/programmes to improve the nutritional and health status of the people apart from anti-poverty programmes. The details of the schemes/programmes are at Annexure-II.

The Government has recently launched the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) which seeks to improve the health status of the rural population with special focus on 18 (eighteen) states with poor health indicators and weak infrastructures. The Mission envisages convergence with other programme determinants including programmes relating to nutrition. The Government has also decided to expand the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme to have additional 1.88 lakh anganwadi centers.

(e) As per the Planning Commission, the poverty ratio has declined significantly to 27% in the year 1999-2000 in comparison to 56% in the year 1973-74. In addition, severe forms of protein-energy malnutrition (kwashiorkor and marasmus), deficiency of vitamin C (scurvy) and deficiency of Thiamin (beri beri) are seen reduced significantly in the country. Severe forms of Vitamin A deficiency (keratomalacia) is noticed in very few pockets and there is significant reduction in iodine deficiency disorders in the country.

ANNEXURE-I

PER CAPITA AND PER CONSUMER UNIT INTAKE OF CALORIES IN RURAL POPULATION IN STATES AS PER THE NATIONAL SAMPLE SURVEY DATA CONDUCTED IN THE YEAR 1999-2000

S.No.	State	Calorie intake
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2021
2.	Assam	1915
3.	Bihar	2121
4.	Gujarat	1986
5.	Haryana	2455
6.	Karnataka	2028
7.	Kerala	1982
8.	Madhya Pradesh	2062

9.	Maharashtra	2012
10.	Orissa	2119
11.	Punjab	2381
12.	Rajasthan	2425
13.	Tamil Nadu	1826
14.	Uttar Pradesh	2327
15.	West Bengal	2095
	All India	2149

ANNEXURE-II

MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE NUTRITIONAL AND HEALTH STATUS OF THE PEOPLE

1. Improving the purchasing power of the people through income generating schemes.

2. Availability of essential food items at subsidized cost through Public Distribution system.

(a) Nutrition Education to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breast feeding and dietary diversification.

(b) A National Nutrition policy has been adopted in 1993 and a National Plan of Action for Nutrition (1995) is being implemented through various Departments of Government. The National Nutrition Mission has been set up.

3. Supplementary Feeding programmes

(i) Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS).

(ii) National Programme of Nutritional support to Primary Education (Mid-day Meal Programme).

4. Programmes for prevention of Specific Micronutrient Deficiency disorders

(i) Under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme, pregnant women as well as children are provided with iron and folic acid tablets for prophylaxis and treatment of anaemia.

(ii) Prophylaxis Programme to prevent Nutritional Blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency. This is also under the RCH programme.

(iii) National Iodine Deficiency Disease Control Programme (NIDDCP)

(iv) Pilot Programme for control of Micronutrient Deficiencies.