

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3943
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2006
MALNOURISHED KIDS AS PER WASHINGTON REPORT
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to a report released globally by the Washington based International Food Policy Institute, India has been ranked from the bottom of the world on malnourished kids;
- (b) if so, the facts thereabout; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a)&(b) The International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington has published the Global Hunger Index (GHI), capturing 3 dimensions of hunger: insufficient availability of food, shortfalls in the nutritional status of children and child mortality. In the Index, information available from the reports of FAO 2005, WHO 2006 and UNICEF 2005 has been used. India ranks 93rd in the said GHI.

(c) The Government is undertaking several steps to ensure food security and improve the health and nutritional status of children. Some of these are as under:

- (i) Increase in production of various foods (Ministry of Agriculture).
- (ii) Targeted Public Distribution System (Department of Food & Public Distribution).
- (iii) National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (Ministry of Rural Development).
- (iv) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme (Ministry of Women & Child Development).
- (v) National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) [Department of Elementary Education & Literacy].
- (vi) Reproductive and Child Health Programme-II under the National Rural Health Mission including Iron and Folic Acid and Vitamin A Supplementation Programmes and Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare).
- (vii) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare).
- (viii) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls and pregnant and nursing mothers (Ministry of Women & Child Development).
- (ix) Nutrition Education and Training Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board (Ministry of Women & Child Development).
- (x) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme/ Swajaldhara and Total Sanitation Campaign (Ministry of Rural Development).