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Title : Need to address the problem of Malnutrition in children in Chhattisgarh and other parts of the country.

MS. INGRID MCLEOD (NOMINATED): The statistics, from various National and International agencies about undernourished children in India, indicates a hopeless future for 47% of India's children. The latest statistics of UNICEF shows that 47% of kids under 5 years suffer malnutrition in India.

The causes indicated are poor quality breast feeding, high population density, high rate of infectious diseases high rate of illiteracy among women, early marriage, low rate of immunization and high birth rate of underweight babies.

In Chhattisgarh alone the death rate due to malnutrition is about 300 per year.

Most children who suffer from malnutrition reside in the interior regions where there are inadequate healthcare facilities.

Such a high percentage of malnourished children will definitely create a debilitating effect on India's future economic prospectus.

Malnourished children if left untreated cannot hope to achieve sound health in adulthood and thus cannot contribute to the country's work force

I request the honorable Minister to take appropriate steps in this regard and also address the issue of malnutrition in children.