GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1267**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2018

**INCREASE IN DEATHS DUE TO MALNUTRITION**

1267. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

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

1. whether it is a fact that nearly one third of world's 150.8 million stunted children live in India, as revealed by 2018 Global Nutrition Report recently;
2. whether it is also a fact that the number of deaths of children are increasing day by day due to malnutrition; and
3. if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to curb malnutrition and allied diseases like anaemia and stunting?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)

(a) Yes, Sir. Global Nutrition Report, 2018, has reported that nearly one-third of worlds stunted children live in India.

(b) Malnutrition is a multi-faceted problem and is not a direct cause of death but contributes to mortality and morbidity by reducing resistance to infections.

(c) The data on number of deaths of children in the country is not maintained by this Ministry. However, this Ministry is implementing several schemes like Anganwadi Services, Scheme for Adolescent Girls and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojna under the Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services Scheme as direct targeted interventions to address the problem of malnutrition in the country. Government has also set up POSHAN Abhiyaan, which aims to prevent and reduce prevalence of stunting, underweight and anaemia among children (0-6 years), prevalence of anaemia among women (15-49 years) and reduction in prevalence of low birth weight in the country in a time bound manner.

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