

## **NUTRITION SOCIETY OF INDIA**

### **THE XXXVIII ANNUAL MEETING**

**4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2006**

**Organized by :**

**All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Kolkata**

### **Calcutta Declarations**

#### **I. Nutrition and Development:**

1. Economic improvement does not necessarily lead to Nutritional improvement. The approach has to be a comprehensive multi-dimensional developmental process linking all factors like Food Security and Safety, Sanitation, Water, Transport, Education, Fuel etc.
2. Poverty measurements should be redefined incorporating nutritional requirements and linking it to poverty lines.

#### **II. Public Private Partnership Towards Better Health and Nutrition:**

3. For successful PPP it will be essential to
  - The Private Sector should develop programmes which will support and benefit the community with link to existing Government Machinery (e.g. Panchayat). Ensure wellness to society.
  - PPP policies need to be formulated whereby Government Industry can be mutually supportive to each other - even that benefit reaching the community.
  - All such partnerships should be sustainable, cost-effective and manageable by communities at the end.

#### **III. Infant Feeding and Growth:**

4. Exclusive breast feeding for 6 months and continuing for 2 years or more - needs to be ensured using all possible machinery. Innovative approaches needed.
5. Guidelines for complementary feeding and care practices for infants and young children essential.

#### **IV. National Rural Health Mission:**

6. NRHM, which is a platform for communication of Health services should ensure issues related to reduction of malnutrition is linked to other inputs like sanitation, water, control of diseases (HIV etc.) (through programmes like NACP, RCH, IDSP, RNTCP, etc.).
7. Suitably trained personnel (Nutritionists / Dietitians etc.) should be involved at all levels while implementing the programme.

8. For NRHM, a policy should be developed which will take forward the concept of nutrition from "Nutrition Measurements" to "Nutrition Movement".

#### **V. Nutrition, Water, Environment and Sanitation:**

9. For all programmes starting from the grass-root levels to top, there should be common forums on "Water and Sanitation and Nutrition" - since the impact of one on the other is so great, a total holistic coverage is essential.
10. Malnutrition can never be overcome without water and food safety. Food safety is linked to water safety and environmental sanitation. Mechanisms to ensure this with a judicious combination of regulation, monitoring, public awareness and support needs to be worked out.

#### **VI. Street Food, Water and Food Safety:**

11. Urban food security and food safety are two most critical issues now. Street foods is a sector which is the most dependable source of nutrition from poor and middle class but is most undependable considering food safety. Street food sector should be helped to generate safe hygienic food and support in view of its numerous positive impacts.

#### **VII. Holding Hands - National and International Agencies to Control Malnutrition:**

12. National International partnerships to control malnutrition should be based on
  - Complete mutual trust.
  - Based totally on the needs of the country.
  - The mechanism adopted should be sustainable and country specific.
  - Cost-effective and on long-term measure.
  - Acceptable and beneficial to the community.

#### **VIII. Media Speaks on Nutrition:**

13. Media and Nutrition Scientists should create a joint forum for dialogue to decide upon --
  - Jointly identify issues.
  - How a particular message can be transmitted for benefit of community.
14. Involved media in planning, implementation, reporting and monitoring process - confidence building.