

# Prevalence of malnutrition among Primary School children of rural areas of Bikaner district (Rajasthan)

Rita Mishra and Madhu Goyal

Prevalence of malnutrition among 986 rural primary school children (7-12 years) of Bikaner district (Rajasthan) was studied by using anthropometric measurements. It was found that the greater percentage (47.87 %) of them were boys than girls (52.12%). Majority of them were Hindu (98.98%) and belonged to schedule caste (52.83%). Mean height and weight of the subjects was found to be 86.98 – 94.24 per cent and 68.99 – 79.09 per cent of the NCHS (1990) standards, respectively. On the basis of weight for age 7.71 to 63.69 per cent subjects were undernourished and 0.40 to 0.80 per cent were over nourished. Whereas, based on BMI 17.24 to 26.67 per cent subjects were noted to be undernourished and 0.81 to 8.52 per cent subjects were obese / overweight. Findings of present study indicate great scope of nutrition intervention for prevention and control of malnutrition.

**Key Words :** Prevalence, Malnutrition, Under nourished, Prevention, Intervention, Nutrition

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## MEMBERS OF RESEARCH FORUM

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**Author for correspondence :**

**Rita Mishra**, Department of Food and Nutrition, College of Home Science, Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agriculture University, **Bikaner (Rajasthan) India**

Email: [chaturvedi.rita@gamil.com](mailto:chaturvedi.rita@gamil.com)

**Associate Authors' :**

**Madhu Goyal**, Department of Food and Nutrition, College of Home science, Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agriculture University, **Bikaner (Rajasthan) India**

Email: [goyalmbkn@gmail.com](mailto:goyalmbkn@gmail.com)

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