**S1 Appendix: Variable description file**

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| **Categories** | **Control Variables** | **Description** |
|  | **Age** |  |
| 1 | 0-5 |  0-5 Months |
| 2 | 6-9 |  6-9 Months |
| 3 | 10-12 |  10-12 Months |
| 4 | 13-36 |  13-36 Months |
| 5 | 37-59 |  37-59 Months |
|  | **Sex** |   |
| 1 | Male |   |
| 2 | Female |   |
|  | **Birth order and Interval** |   |
| 1 | first  |  First order  |
| 2 | 2-3 & < 24 months |  2-3 birth order and less than 24 months interval |
| 3 | 2-3 & > 23 months |  2-3 birth order and greater than 23 months interval |
| 4 |  4+ & < 24 months  |  More than 4 birth order and less than 24 months birth interval |
| 5 |  4+ & > 23 months |  More than 4 birth order and greater than 23 months birth interval |
|  | **Size of Child at birth** |   |
| 1 | Small |  (Very small, smaller than average) |
| 2 | Average |  Average |
| 3 | Large |  (Very large, larger than average) |
|  | **Mother's age at the time of birth (in years** |   |
| 1 | <20 |  15-19 years |
| 2 | 20-29  |  20-29 years |
| 3 | 30-49 |  30-49 years |
|  | **Mother's BMI** |   |
| 1 | Underweight  |  BMI cut off point less than 18.5 |
| 2 | Normal |  BMI cut off point 18.5 to 24.9 |
| 3 | Overweight and Obese |  BMI cut off point 25 to >=30 |
|  | **Mother's education**  |   |
| 1 | Not educated |  Illiterate  |
| 2 | Primary |  Educated up to 5th class |
| 3 | secondary |  Educated up to 10th/Matric  |
| 4 | Higher |  Educated up to 12th and above |
|  | **Health care variable** |   |
|  | **Antenatal care** |   |
| 1 | No ANC |  Three antenatal visit or less |
| 2 | Full ANC |

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| Full antenatal care is at least four antenatal visits, at least one tetanus toxoid (TT) injection and iron folic acid tablets or syrup taken for 100 or more days  |

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|  | **Child feeding variables** |   |
|  | **Initiation of breastfeeding** |   |
| 1 | Within one hour of birth |  Breastfed within first hour |
| 2 | After one hour |  Breastfed first hour and above |
|  | **Duration of breastfeeding(in months)** |   |
| 1 | 0-5 |   |
| 2 | 6-11 |   |
| 3 | 12-17 |   |
| 4 | 18-59 |   |
|  | **Drank from a bottle with a nipple** |   |
| 1 | No |   |
| 2 | Yes |   |
|  | **Socio-economic variables** |   |
|  | **Place of residence** |   |
| 1 | Urban  |   |
| 2 | Rural |   |
|  | **Caste** |   |
| 1 | SC and ST | Schedule Caste(SC) and Schedule Tribes(ST) |
| 2 | OBC | Other Backward Class (OBC) |
| 3 | others | Other than Schedule Caste/Schedule Tribes/marginalized group, and Other Backward class |
|  | **Religion** |   |
| 1 | Hindu |   |
| 2 | Muslim |   |
| 3 | Others |  (Christian, bauds, Jainism, etc.) these are minority group in india |
|  | **Wealth Index** |   |
| 1 | Poorest |   |
| 2 | Poorer |   |
| 3 | Middle |   |
| 4 | Richer |   |
| 5 | Richest |   |
|  | **Household environment variable**  |   |
|  | **Type of house** |   |
| 1 | Kaccha |   |
| 2 | Semi-Pucca |   |
| 3 | Pucca |   |
|  | **Toilet facility** |   |
| 1 | Improved | Flush toilet to piped sewer system, to septic tank or to pit latrine; Pit toilet latrine ventilated improved pit (VIP) or with slab and Composting toilet |
| 2 | Not Improved | Flush to somewhere else or don’t know where; Pit latrine without slab/open pit; No facility/uses bush/field; Dry toilet; Other |
|  | **Fuel used for cooking**  |   |
| 1 | Smoked |  (Coal, lignite, charcoal, wood, straw/shrubs/grass, agricultural crop and animal dung) |
| 2 | Smokeless |  (Electricity, LPG, biogas and kerosene) |
|  | **Source of drinking water** |   |
| 1 | Improved | Piped water into dwelling or to yard/plot; Public tap/standpipe; Tube well or borehole; Protected well; Protected spring and Bottled water; Rain water |
| 2 | Unimproved | Unprotected dug well; Unprotected well; Unprotected spring; River/dam/lake/ponds/stream/canal/irrigation channel; Tanker truck; Cart with small tank; Other |
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