

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 2545**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2023

**“IMPLEMENTATION OF POSHAN ABHIYAAN 2.0”**

2545 SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN  
DR. AMEE YAJNIK  
SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL

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

- a. the details of malnourished women and children in the country, State-wise;
- b. the steps taken by Government under POSHAN Abhiyaan 2.0 to reduce malnutrition in the country;
- c. whether Government is implementing Anganwadi Services Scheme and if so, the progress made so far; and
- d. the details of measures taken by Government to ensure wider coverage of the programme?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) The State/UT wise details of children and women who are malnourished as per the National Family Health Survey 5 is at **Annexure I**.

(b) The efforts under the Supplementary Nutrition Programme under Anganwadi Services, Supplementary Nutrition Programme, revised Scheme for Adolescent Girls and POSHAN Abhiyaan have been rejuvenated and converged as ‘Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0’ (Mission Poshan 2.0).

It seeks to address the challenges of malnutrition in children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers through a strategic shift in nutrition content and delivery and by creation of a convergent eco-system to develop and promote practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity. Steps have been taken to improve nutritional quality and testing in accredited labs, strengthen delivery and leverage technology under the 'Poshan Tracker' for prompt supervision and management of services.

Further, a programme to support development of Poshan Vatikas at Anganwadi centers to meet dietary diversity gap leveraging traditional knowledge in nutritional practices has been emphasised in the Scheme guidelines.

(c) Anganwadi Services was launched in 1975. It is one of the flagship programmes of the Government of India and represents one of the world's largest and unique programmes for early childhood care and development. It is the foremost symbol of the country's commitment to its children and nursing mothers, as a response to the challenge of providing pre-school non-formal education on one hand and breaking the cycle of malnutrition, morbidity, reduced learning capacity and mortality on the other.

The Anganwadi Services, was re-aligned under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0. It is a universal self-selecting Scheme available to all the beneficiaries who enroll at the AWCs across the country. There are 7074 sanctioned projects under Anganwadi Services with 13.9 lakh Anganwadi Centres across the country. 9.94 crore beneficiaries, namely, pregnant women, lactating mothers and children under the age of 6 years, are registered for Anganwadi Services on the ICT application, Poshan Tracker, as on date, out of whom 91% are Aadhar-verified.

Under Saksham Anganwadi, 2 lakh selected Govt. owned AWCs @ 40,000 AWCs per year would be strengthened, upgraded and rejuvenated for improved nutrition delivery. In the FY 2022-23, close to 40,000 Anganwadi Centres in Aspirational Districts have been identified to be made into Saksham Anganwadis, which will be enhanced with LED screens, Wi-fi, smart -visual teaching aids, Poshan Vatikas, Rainwater harvesting structures etc.

Funds amounting to Rs.15840.84/- crore have been released in the current Financial Year up to 10.03.2023 for implementing various activities under Anganwadi services.

(d) Poshan Abhiyan is a key component of Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0. A novel feature of POSHAN Abhiyaan has been its focus on social and behavioural change communication (SBCC) thus paving way for a mass movement to promote transformative change, referred to as Jan Andolan. An important focus has therefore been on 'Behaviour Change Communication' or BCC to address inadequate and inappropriate infant and young child feeding practices, nutrition and care during pregnancy and adolescence.

Under Poshan Abhiyaan, Community Based Events or CBEs have served as a significant strategy in changing nutrition practices. The gatherings serve as a platform for disseminating essential messages and to counsel pregnant and lactating women, and their husbands/mothers-in-law on appropriate nutrition and health behaviour. The events are organised every month at Anganwadi centres (AWC) and primarily focus on promotion of maternal nutrition (Godh bhara) and/ or initiation of appropriate complementary feeding (Annaprasan). So far, close to 3.7 crore CBEs have been held across the country.

At the national level, the Rashtriya Poshan Maah is celebrated in the month of September across the country, while Poshan Pakhwada is celebrated in the month of March. Themes have included overall nutrition, hygiene, water and sanitation, anemia prevention, importance of breastfeeding, growth monitoring, role of Poshan Panchayats, AYUSH for wellbeing, Yoga for Health, importance of Poshan Vatikas for cultivation of local vegetables, medicinal plants/herbs and fruits at the community level, Poshan ke Paanch Sutra, cycle rallies, defeat diarrhoea campaigns, Nukkad Natak/Folk Shows, Self Help Group meetings, etc. So far more than 60 crore activities have been conducted across the country as part of the Jan Andolan.

\*\*\*\*\*



## Annexure I

## State/UT wise prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight among children under five years of age as per National Family Health Survey (NFHS 5)

State/UT	Children under 5 years who are stunted (%)	Children under 5 years who are wasted (%)	Children under 5 years who are underweight (%)
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	22.5	16	23.7
Andhra Pradesh	31.2	16.1	29.6
Assam	35.3	21.7	32.8
Bihar	42.9	22.9	41
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	39.4	21.6	38.7
Goa	25.8	19.1	24
Gujarat	39	25.1	39.7
Himachal Pradesh	30.8	17.4	25.5
Jammu & Kashmir	26.9	19	21
Karnataka	35.4	19.5	32.9
Kerala	23.4	15.8	19.7
Lakshadweep	32	17.4	25.8
Ladakh	30.5	17.5	20.4
Maharashtra	35.2	25.6	36.1
Meghalaya	46.5	12.1	26.6
Manipur	23.4	9.9	13.3
Mizoram	28.9	9.8	12.7
Nagaland	32.7	19.1	26.9
Sikkim	22.3	13.7	13.1
Telangana	33.1	21.7	31.8
Tripura	32.3	18.2	25.6
West Bengal	33.8	20.3	32.2
Arunachal Pradesh	28	13.1	15.4
Chhattisgarh	34.6	18.9	31.3
Haryana	27.5	11.5	21.5
Jharkhand	39.6	22.4	39.4
Madhya Pradesh	35.7	19	33
Odisha	31	18.1	29.7
Punjab	24.5	10.6	16.9
Rajasthan	31.8	16.8	27.6
Tamil Nadu	25	14.6	22
Uttar Pradesh	39.7	17.3	32.1
Uttarakhand	27	13.2	21
Chandigarh	25.3	8.4	20.6
NCT of Delhi	30.9	11.2	21.8
Puducherry	20	12.4	15.3

**State/UT wise prevalence of undernutrition among women aged 15-49 years as per  
National Family Health Survey (NFHS 5)**

<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Underweight (%)</b>
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9.4
Andhra Pradesh	14.8
Arunachal Pradesh	5.7
Assam	17.6
Bihar	25.6
Chandigarh	13
Chhattisgarh	23.1
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	25.1
Daman and Diu	25.1
Delhi	10
Goa	13.8
Gujarat	25.2
Haryana	15.1
Himachal Pradesh	13.9
Jammu & Kashmir	5.2
Jharkhand	26.2
Karnataka	17.2
Kerala	10.1
Ladakh	4.4
Lakshadweep	8
Madhya Pradesh	23
Maharashtra	20.8
Manipur	7.2
Meghalaya	10.8
Mizoram	5.3
Nagaland	11.1
Odisha	20.8
Puducherry	9
Punjab	12.7
Rajasthan	19.6
Sikkim	5.8
Tamil Nadu	12.6
Telangana	18.8
Tripura	16.2
Uttar Pradesh	19
Uttarakhand	13.9
West Bengal	14.8

\*\*\*\*\*