

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 632
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7.2.2024

PM POSHAN TRACKER

632. SMT. MAHUA MAJI:

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

- (a) whether Government plans to introduce any training program for the Anganwadi workers to make PM Poshan Tracker effective;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is cognizant about the fact that the tech available for the use of Poshan Tracker is mostly non-functional in the States of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if so, whether Government is planning to take any measures to replace the non-functional tech, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether Government has set up a timeline for the replacement of the non-functional tech?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Training has always been a crucial element in the Anganwadi Services Scheme as the achievement of the Programme goals largely depend upon the effectiveness of frontline workers in improving service delivery. Since the inception of the Scheme, the Ministry has formulated a comprehensive training strategy for the functionaries of Anganwadi Services. Training is imparted to the functionaries on a regular.

Under Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, Ministry drafts a training schedule, involving a cascading model of training, wherein Master Trainers (namely, District Officers, Block Coordinators and Supervisors) are trained through NIPCCD, and then the master trainers directly train all Anganwadi Workers in the field. Further, NeGD regularly conducts field level trainings/workshops directly for Anganwadi Workers regarding use of the Poshan Tracker Application. Trainings have been held both virtually and physically, in various districts across the country. More than 10 lakh Anganwadi Workers have been trained on thematic modules to strengthen the implementation and operationalisation of the Abhiyaan.

Further, the frontline workers are also trained through dedicated handholding sessions followed by practical training on smart phone for using the ICT application named Poshan Tracker, which enables the Anganwadi Workers to capture data with accuracy. The Poshan Tracker app offers counselling videos for AWWs on key behaviours and services which help disseminate

messages on birth preparedness, delivery, post-natal care, breastfeeding and complementary feeding.

Ministry has sent a communication dated 2nd February 2021 to States/UTs regarding appointment of Nodal Person for providing technical support and resolving any issue about downloading the new Poshan Tracker application and its functioning.

(c) to (e) Taking into consideration the technological advancements, since the launch of POSHAN Abhiyaan in 2018, the Revised specifications of smartphones under POSHAN Abhiyaan were issued on 28th March 2023 which binds States/ UTs to procure 'high quality devices/ smart phones' with 4G/5G support. Good quality smartphones with higher specifications will not only help in better & timely data collection but will also make life of Anganwadi Workers easier as entire programme management is now done through Poshan Tracker.

Ministry on 29th March 2023 issued a replacement policy to States requesting them to submit their requirement for replacement of Smart Phones that were eligible for replacement. Additionally, the cost of smartphones has also been revised to Rs.11800/- per set from existing Rs.9440/- to ensure procurement of better and faster processing mobiles.
