

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3032
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025

SAKSHAM ANGANWADI CENTRES IN ODISHA

3032. DR SASMIT PATRA:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria for setting up new Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), cost involved and share of the Centre and the State in the expenditure for constructing AWCs;
- (b) by when Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 programmes are being implemented, and the main goals of these programmes;
- (c) the standard cost for nutritional supplements provided under the programmes and achievements as of March 31,2023;
- (d) whether the supplementary nutrition in Anganwadis is sufficient to end malnutrition and whether any specific schemes in Odisha address malnutrition among tribal children; and
- (e) steps being taken to eliminate malnutrition under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

- (a) & (b): Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 [earlier known as Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme] was launched in 1975. It has now been revamped as Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (hereinafter referred to as Mission Poshan 2.0) w.e.f 01.04.2022. This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and the implementation of the scheme falls under the ambit of State Government/ UT Administration. It is the foremost symbol of 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 vicious cycle of malnutrition, morbidity, reduced learning capacity and mortality on the other. The beneficiaries under this scheme are children in the age of 6 months to 6 years, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers and Adolescent Girls in the age group of 14 to 18 years in Aspirational Districts of States and North Eastern Region.

The existing Components of the Scheme have been reorganized under Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0. The primary verticals of the Scheme are as under:

- a) Nutrition Support for POSHAN and for Adolescent Girls.
- b) Early Childhood Care and Education [3-6 years].
- c) Anganwadi Infrastructure including modern, upgraded Saksham Anganwadis; and
- d) Poshan Abhiyan

The main objectives of Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 are:-

- (i) To contribute to human capital development of the country
- (ii) Address challenges of malnutrition;
- (iii) Promote nutrition awareness and good eating habits for sustainable health and wellbeing; and
- (iv) Address nutrition related deficiencies through key strategies

Under convergence with MGNREGS, for construction of Anganwadi centres, the cost norms have been revised from @7 Lakh per AWC to @12 Lakh per AWC wherein Rs.8.00 Lakh would be provided under MGNREGS, Rs.2.00 Lakh under 15th FC (or any other untied funds) and Rs.2.00 Lakh by MWCD per AWC to be shared between Centre and States/UTs in the following cost sharing ratio:-

| | Cost sharing ratio |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| States/UTs with Legislature | 60:40 |
| NE/Himalayan States (including J&K) | 90:10 |
| UT Without Legislature | 100:0 |

As per the Mission Poshan 2.0 guidelines, the population norms for sanction of AWCs is given as under:

| Anganwadi Centres | Population | Number of AWCs |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| For Rural/Urban Projects | 400-800 | 1 AWC |
| | 800-1600 | 2 AWCs |
| | 1600-2400 | 3 AWCs |
| | Thereafter in multiples of 800 | 1 AWC |
| For Tribal/Riverine/Desert, Hilly other difficult areas/Projects | 300-800 | 1 AWC |
| For PM-JANMAN | Approx 100 | 1 AWC |

(c): The existing rates for supplementary nutrition under the Anganwadi Services as per the details given below:

| S. No. | Categories | Existing rates (per beneficiary per day) |
|--------|---|---|
| 1. | Children (6-72 months) | Rs.8.00 |
| 2. | Severely malnourished children (6-72 months) | Rs.12.00 |
| 3. | Pregnant women/Nursing mothers and Adolescent Girls | Rs.9.50 |

Under Mission Poshan 2.0, a new strategy has been made for reduction in malnutrition and for improved health, wellness and immunity through activities like community engagement, outreach, behavioral change, and advocacy. It focuses on Maternal Nutrition, Infant and Young Child Feeding Norms, treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)/ Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and wellness through AYUSH practices to reduce prevalence of wasting, stunting, anemia and being underweight. The malnutrition status in children NFHS-5 (2019-21) and January 2025 (from Poshan Tracker) is as follows:

| NFHS and Poshan Tracker | Stunting% | Underweight% | Wasting% |
|----------------------------|-----------|--------------|----------|
| NFHS-5 (2019-21)* | 35.5 | 32.1 | 19.3 |
| Poshan Tracker (Jan 2025)* | 39.61 | 16.95 | 5.43 |

* Age of children (0-5 years)

The achievements recorded in the NFHS during the last five years are as under: -

| Maternal Health Indicators | NFHS 4 | NFHS 5 |
|---|--------|--------|
| Mothers who had an antenatal check-up in the first trimester (%) | 58.6 | 70.0 |
| Institutional births | 78.9 | 88.6 |
| Births attended by skilled health personnel (doctor/ nurse/ LHV/ ANM/ other health personnel (%)) | 81.4 | 89.4 |
| Mothers who received postnatal care from a doctor/ nurse/ LHV/ ANM/ midwife/ other health personnel within 2 days of delivery (%) | 62.4 | 81.7 |

(d) & (e): Mission is a universal self-selecting umbrella scheme available to all the eligible beneficiaries who enroll at the Anganwadi Centers (AWCs) and is being implemented in all States/UTs including Odisha.

Nutrition goes beyond mere eating of food; it requires proper digestion, absorption, and metabolism which are influenced by factors like sanitation, education and access to safe

drinking water. As malnutrition requires a multi-sectoral approach involving dimensions of food, health, water, sanitation and education, it is crucial to effectively address the issue of malnutrition. It is being addressed under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 by establishing cross cutting convergence amongst 18 Ministries/Departments.

Under this mission, Supplementary Nutrition is provided to Children (6 months to 6 years), Pregnant Women, Lactating Mothers and Adolescent Girls to beat the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition by adopting a life cycle approach. Supplementary nutrition is provided in accordance with the nutrition norms contained in Schedule-II of the National Food Security Act.

Ministries of Women & Child Development and Health & Family Welfare have jointly released the protocol for Community Management of Malnutrition (CMAM) to prevent and treat severely acute malnutrition in children and for reducing associated morbidity and mortality.
