

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3663**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2025

**POSHAN BHI PADHAI BHI**

3663. DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

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

- (a) the number of beneficiaries under Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi (PBPB) Programme in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the major highlights, broad objectives and significance of PBPB; and
- (c) the number of Anganwadi centres in the country likely to be provided with skill development facility under the said Programme;
- (d) the steps initiated to improve proper infrastructure, including basic amenities like toilets, clean water and sufficient space for children to learn and play; and
- (e) the details of overall impact of the said Programme?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi (PBPB) Programme was launched on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 with an objective to improve the quality of education in the Anganwadi centers along with the focus on nutrition.

This national initiative aims to provide all 13.9 lakh Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) with a 5 day in person training - 3 days in Round 1 (2023-25) and 2 days in Round 2 (2025-26). A Two Tier Training PBPB Implementation Model is being followed. Tier 1 involves two days training of State Level Master Trainers (SLMTs). Tier 2 involves a 3 Days Training of Anganwadi Workers (AWWs). It covers curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment tools, emphasizing play-based, activity-based learning.

Capacity-building under PBPB helps to facilitate implementation of Aadharshila (National Curriculum for Early Childhood Care and Education for Children from Three to Six Years) and Navchetana (National Framework for Early Childhood Stimulation for Children from Birth to Three Years) at the Anganwadi Centre level in the mother tongue. Up to 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, 36,424 SLMTs have been trained under Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi programs in Round 1 across the country and 420,360 Anganwadi Workers have been trained across the country including 35,174 AWWs from the State of Maharashtra.

In PBPB Round 1, Day 1 training schedule covers sessions including Introduction to Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi, Developmental Domains and Play-based ECCE activities, and Weekly and Daily schedule as per Aadharshila and home visits as per Navchetana, Day 2 covers nutrition, including IYCF, SAM/MAM treatment micronutrient deficiencies, Dietary Guidelines, Growth Monitoring, parental engagement and community mobilization, etc. Day 3 covers divyang inclusion and birth to three stimulation, child assessments and learning outcomes, home visits and practices during pregnancy known as “Garbh Sanskar”, States best practices, etc.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) has leveraged the Poshan Tracker application to empower Anganwadi Workers and provide them with continuous digital support and coaching. This initiative aims to enhance their capacity to deliver optimal early childhood care and education services to all children.

As part of the digital training efforts, daily learning prompts based on Aadharshila are sent to all AWWs through the Poshan Tracker app. These include two ECCE activity videos and one voice note summarizing the day’s activities for children aged 3 to 6 years at Anganwadi Centres. The content follows a structured 44-week curriculum, with 36 weeks of active learning and 8 weeks for recap and reinforcement. Over 230 unique videos, 180+ voice notes, and 1,000+ activity PDFs have been uploaded in Hindi, with translations into other languages currently in progress.

(d) to (e) Anganwadi Services is a Centrally Sponsored scheme. The implementation of the scheme falls under the ambit of State Governments/UTs administration.

During the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission cycle, 2 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) located in Government buildings @ 40,000 AWCs per year are strengthened and upgraded as Saksham Anganwadis for improved nutrition delivery and for Early Childhood Care and Education under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0. Saksham Anganwadis are to be provided with better infrastructure than the conventional Anganwadi Centres including LED screens, water filtration system/installation of RO Machine, Poshan Vatika, ECCE related books and learning material etc. As on date, 2 Lakh Anganwadi Centres have been sanctioned for upgradation to Saksham Anganwadi Centres.

Under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, beginning from FY 2021-22, 50,000 AWCs building are to be constructed over a period of five years @10,000 AWCs per year. The cost norms for construction of Anganwadi Centres in convergence with MGNREGS is Rs.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 prescribed cost sharing ratio.

The unit cost approved for construction of toilet is Rs.36,000/- per AWC and for drinking water provisioning the approved cost is Rs. 17,000/- per AWC to be shared by Centre and States/UTs as per the cost sharing ratio.

Apart from this, the Government has issued orders for upgradation of all mini AWC to regular AWCs. This would add an Anganwadi Helper in these Anganwadi Centres across the country to share the burden of Anganwadi worker so that the component of ECCE can be strengthened. Out of 1,16,852 Mini-AWCs in 23 States/UTs, sanction for upgradation of 88,716 Mini-AWCs in 20 States/UTs has been issued till. Further, directions have been issued to States/UTs to co-locate Anganwadi Centres, which are running on rent without sufficient infrastructure, at nearby Primary Schools, where space is available.

The PM JANMAN Mission launched by Ministry of Tribal Affairs aims for targeted development of 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) residing in 18 States and a UT. This Mission focuses on 11 critical interventions related to 9 key Ministries including Ministry of Women and Child Development. As on date, a total of 2139 AWCs has been approved for construction under PM JANMAN across the country.

In addition to above, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched Dharti Aaba Janjati Gram Unnat Abhiyan (DAJGUA) aimed at improving the socio-economic condition of tribal communities by adopting saturation coverage of tribal families in tribal majority areas and aspirational block ST villages. The intervention of Ministry of Women and Child Development involves establishment of 2000 new Saksham AWCs and upgradation of 6000 existing AWCs into Saksham AWCs from FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29. As on date, a total of 236 AWCs have been approved for construction under DAJGUA across the country.

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