

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 468**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2025

**QUALITY STANDARDS IN ANGANWADI**

468. SHRI MAYANKKUMAR NAYAK:  
SHRI MOKARIYA RAMBHAI:  
SHRI NARESH BANSAL:  
SHRI AMAR PAL MAURYA:  
SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH:  
SMT. KIRAN CHOUDHRY:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken steps to promote quality standards and awareness among women and children through Anganwadi Centres and Self Help Groups;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any training or capacity building programmes have been organized for Anganwadi workers or frontline workers under the Ministry; and
- (d) if so, number of officials who have been trained and the impact thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b) Under the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission to address the challenge of malnutrition, various components like Anganwadi services, Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent girls have been subsumed under the umbrella Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0) into the three primary verticals as given below:

☐ Nutrition Support for POSHAN through Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) for children of the age group of 06 months to 6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers (PWLM); and for Adolescent Girls in the age group of 14 to 18 years in Aspirational Districts and North Eastern Region (NER);

☐ Early Childhood Care and Education [3-6 years] and early childhood care & stimulation for (0-3 years);

☐ Anganwadi Infrastructure including modern, upgraded Saksham Anganwadi;

Under Mission Poshan 2.0, Supplementary nutrition is provided to beneficiaries 300 days in a year through a network of Anganwadi Centers located across the country for bridging the gap between the actual intake and the Recommended Dietary Intake (RDI).

Steps have been taken to improve nutritional quality and testing in accredited labs, strengthen delivery and leverage technology under Poshan Tracker to improve governance. As part of leveraging technology, the 'Poshan Tracker' is a robust ICT enabled platform to improve governance in regard to real time supervision and management of services. Further, to ensure last mile tracking of service delivery, SMS alerts to beneficiaries have been introduced on delivery of Take Home Ration (THR). Further, Facial Recognition System (FRS) has been made mandatory for availing the benefit of THR. Toll-free Poshan Helpline (14408) has also been introduced for grievance redressal under this scheme.

Streamlining Guidelines have been issued by MWCD on Quality Assurance, Roles and Responsibilities of Duty Holders, procedure for procurement, integrating AYUSH concepts and Data Management and Monitoring through Poshan Tracker for transparency, efficiency and accountability in delivery of Supplementary Nutrition. Nutritional Status and Quality Standards of food items under Supplementary Nutrition, Transparency are being monitored in Supply Chain Management at State, District and Village Level.

A 'Protocol for Management of Malnutrition in Children - CMAM Protocol' has been launched providing detailed steps for identification and management of malnourished children at the Anganwadi level, including decision-making for referral, nutritional management and follow-up care.

Under Mission Poshan 2.0, one of the major activities undertaken is Community Mobilization and Awareness Advocacy leading to Jan Andolan to educate people on nutritional aspects. IEC material in the form of videos, pamphlets, flyers etc., in regional languages have also been developed around critical themes. Social & Behavioural Changes have been inculcated by conducting Community Based Events, Poshan Maah and Poshan Pakhwada in convergence with various Ministries/ Departments and other stakeholders.

Community Based Events (CBEs) have served as a significant strategy in changing nutrition practices. CBEs help to celebrate critical milestones in the life of pregnant women and children below two years of age and to disseminate critical information on, inter alia, right time to ensure appropriate complementary feeding with diet diversity. Community based events such as Annaprasan Diwas, Suposan Diwas (specifically focused on orienting husbands), Celebrating coming of age - getting ready for pre-school at AWC, Messages related to public health for improvement of nutrition and to reduce illness, Anaemia WASH etc. are celebrated/ discussed.

Annually, the month of September is celebrated as Rashtriya Poshan Maah across the country, and Poshan Pakhwada in a fortnight of March/ April. More than 130 crore Jan Andolan activities have been conducted since 2018 through 14 Jan Andolans. Each of these Jan Andolans has helped in sensitizing not only the target beneficiaries but communities at large.

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

This national initiative aims to provide all 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 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2025, 41,240 SLMTs and 5,58,671 Anganwadi Workers have been trained across the country.

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.

\*\*\*\*\*