

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2803
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17th MARCH, 2026**

HEALTH AND NUTRITION PROGRAMME IN TRIBAL/BACKWARD AREAS

2803 # SHRI DEEPAK PRAKASH:

Will the **Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has implemented various health and nutrition programme in tribal/backward dominated districts of the country during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the complete details of such programmes/schemes implemented in the State of Jharkhand during the last two years; and
- (c) whether Government has made any assessment with regard to malnutrition and maternal health indicators in tribal/backward areas of Jharkhand and if so, the complete details thereof including action taken to provide adequate financial support to implement such programmes?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (c): The National Health Mission (NHM) provides support for improvement in health infrastructure, availability of adequate human resources in health facilities, to improve availability and accessibility to quality healthcare across the country including all tribal/backward dominated districts of Jharkhand.

Various initiatives carried out under NHM by the Government of India in the country including Jharkhand are operationalisation of Ayushman Arogya Mandir (AAM), Free Drugs Service Initiative, Free Diagnostic Service Initiative, National Ambulance Services, Mobile Medical Units, ASHAs, 24 x 7 Services and First Referral Facilities, Prime Minister's National Dialysis Programme, various activities under Reproductive & Child Health, Anaemia Mukh Bharat (AMB) strategy, TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan and Universal Immunization programme.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is implementing Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCAH+N) strategy in a life cycle approach under NHM, which includes interventions to increase awareness and address undernutrition including calorie deficiency and protein malnutrition across the country, including all tribal/backward dominated districts in Jharkhand as placed below:

- **Facility Based New-born Care:** Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs)/ Special Newborn Care Units (SNCUs) are established at Medical College and District Hospital, New-born Stabilization Units (NBSUs) are established at First Referral Units (FRUs)/Community Health Centres (CHCs) for care of sick and small babies.
- **Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC)** is implemented at facility and community level for low birth weight/ pre-term babies. It includes early and prolonged skin-to-skin contact with the mother or family member and exclusive and frequent breastfeeding.
- **Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA):** Early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding for first six months and appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices are promoted under Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA).
- **Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs)** are established at public health facilities where children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and medical complications are admitted for treatment.
- **Lactation Management Centres** are established to ensure availability of Mother's Own Milk or safe, pasteurized Donor Human Milk for feeding of sick, preterm, low birth weight babies admitted in Neonatal Intensive Care Units and Special Newborn Care Units.
- **Anemia Mukh Bharat (AMB)** is implemented to reduce the prevalence of anemia among six beneficiary groups - Children (6-59 months), Children (5-9 years), Adolescents (10-19 years), Women of reproductive age (15-49 years), pregnant women and lactating mothers in a lifecycle approach.
 - National Deworming Day (NDD)
 - Vitamin A supplementation Programme
 - Home Based New-born Care (HBNC) and Home-Based Care of Young Children (HBYC) programme
 - Monthly Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Day (VHSND)

Under Mission Poshan 2.0, the Government 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, anaemia and being underweight. Supplementary Nutrition is provided to children age 6 months to 6 years, pregnant women, lactating mothers and adolescent girls at Anganwadi centres as per nutrition norms, based on principles of diet diversity that provides quality protein, healthy fats and micronutrients.

There are various mechanisms and survey agencies which generate data on tribal healthcare on a periodic basis. National Family Health Survey (NFHS) provides details on major changes in malnutrition and maternal health indicators among all the high-burden tribal/backward districts across the country including Jharkhand. Census of India provides population and household details including tribal/backward areas. National Sample Survey provides household surveys on various socio-economic subjects. The State-wise list of key indicators NFHS-5 may be extracted from below mentioned link:

<https://www.nfhsiips.in/nfhsuser/publication.php>

‘Public Health’ & ‘Hospitals’ are State subjects, hence, the primary responsibility of providing basic healthcare services to all the citizens of the country lies with respective State/UT Government.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs to strengthen the public healthcare system, based on the proposals received in the form of Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) under NHM. Government of India provides approval for the proposals in the form of Record of Proceedings (RoPs) as per norms & available resources. The details of RoPs issued to States/UTs including Jharkhand, are available at following web link:

<https://nhm.gov.in/index1.php?lang=1&level=1&sublinkid=1377&lid=744>
