

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 629
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2026

STRENGTHENING ANGANWADI SERVICES IN TRIBAL DISTRICTS OF ODISHA

629. SHRI MANAS RANJAN MANGARAJ:

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

- (a) the district-wise status of Anganwadi Centres in Koraput, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Rayagada and Kandhamal, including infrastructure and staff vacancies;
- (b) the steps taken to ensure quality supplementary nutrition, growth monitoring and early childhood education in these districts;
- (c) whether Government proposes additional funds and model Anganwadi Centres in tribal and remote areas of Odisha; and
- (d) the timeline for saturation of services under Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a). The district wise status of Anganwadi Centres in Koraput, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Rayagada and Kandhamal, including infrastructure and staff vacancies is available at the link: <https://www.poshantracker.in/statistics>.

(b) to (d): Under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, Supplementary Nutrition is provided to Children (6 months to 6 years), Pregnant Women, Lactating Mothers and Adolescent Girls in accordance with the nutritional norms contained in Schedule-II of the National Food Security Act (NFSA). States/UTs are encouraged to decide menu suitable to the local conditions and availability.

Regular monitoring of growth parameters is essential for identifying children who may be malnourished and for making timely interventions. Therefore, Anganwadi centres have been equipped with Growth Monitoring devices like infantometer, stadiometer, weighing scale-infant, weighing scale – Mother & Child.

Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi (PBPB) Programme was launched on 10th May, 2023 with an objective to improve the quality of early childhood education in the Anganwadi centers along with the focus on nutrition. Under PBPB, a Two Tier training model is being followed which 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. As on 29.01.2026, 41,645 State Level Master Trainers (SLMTs) have been trained under Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi across the country including 2742 SLMTs from the State of Odisha and 10,01,898 Anganwadi Workers have been trained across the country including 19,326 AWWs from the State of Odisha.

Under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, two lakh Anganwadi Centres located in Government buildings @ 40,000 AWCs per year are strengthened as Saksham Anganwadis for delivery of improved nutrition and for Early Childhood Care and Education in the 15th Finance Commission cycle. Saksham Anganwadis are provided with better infrastructure than the conventional Anganwadi centres with LED screens, water filtration system, Poshan Vatika, ECCE material and BALA paintings. As on 31.01.2026, a total of 2 lakh AWCs has been approved for upgradation for which an amount of Rs. 1232.65 Cr. have been allocated to all States/UTs across the country including 12,140 AWCs to the State of Odisha.

In order to improve the infrastructure facility of Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) various steps have been undertaken by the Ministry that, inter alia, include construction of toilets @ Rs. 36,000/- and drinking water facility @ Rs. 17,000/-.

Under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, there is a provision of construction of 50000 AWCs buildings over a period of five years @10000 AWCs per year in convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) @Rs.12 Lakh per AWC wherein Rs.8.00 Lakh would be provided under MGNREGS, Rs.2.00 Lakh under 15th Finance Commission (FC) (or any other untied funds) and Rs.2.00 Lakh by MWCD per AWC to be shared between Centre and States and UTs in the prescribed cost sharing ratio.

Under PM-JANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan), a total of 2,500 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) have been sanctioned for construction in PVTG (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups) areas including 89 AWCs in the State of Odisha.

Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) launched by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) focusses on convergence, outreach and saturation in approximately, 63,843 villages. Under DAGJUA, 875 AWCs have been sanctioned for construction.

Vibrant Village Programme (VVP) Phase-I focuses on comprehensive development of villages of northern border across four states Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, and Sikkim and the UT of Ladakh. A total of 101 AWCs has been sanctioned for construction in these border areas.

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. Guidelines for Co-locating Anganwadi Centres within Government Primary Schools have been issued jointly with the Ministry of Education.

Poshan Tracker an ICT tool has been implemented for monitoring and tracking of infrastructure and service delivery at Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) and beneficiaries on defined indicators.

Poshan Tracker is leveraged for dynamic identification of stunting, wasting, under-weight prevalence among children. It has facilitated near real time data collection for Anganwadi Services such as daily attendance, Early Childhood Care & Education, Provision of Hot Cooked Meal (HCM) and Take Home Ration, Growth Measurement etc.
