

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *118
ANSWERED ON 29.07.2026

MISSION POSHAN 2.0 AND ANAEMIA MukT BHARAT

*118. SMT. LAXMI VERMA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Mission envisages use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) – based monitoring systems and digital health tracking;
- (b) action plan under this Mission to implement ‘Digital Health Records’ for Anganwadi Centres and school children, and ‘Mother and Child Protection Cards’ for pregnant women and children;
- (c) whether Government proposes to prescribe time-bound targets for reducing malnutrition by 70 percent and anaemia by 60 percent by 2035, particularly by prioritizing tribal/aspirational districts and remote areas; and
- (d) steps being taken to ensure inter-departmental coordination among concerned Ministries for the effective implementation of the Mission?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) IN RESPECT OF
RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 106 FOR REPLY ON 29.07.2026
REGARDING “MISSION POSHAN 2.0 AND ANAEMIA MukT BHARAT ASKED BY
SMT. LAXMI VERMA**

(a) to (d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) under Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0 provides community screening services for defects, diseases, deficiencies and delays in children (0-18 years) by the Mobile Health Teams (MHT) in the Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) & Government schools. A Digital Health Card is generated for every child screened by MHT. Children identified with any health condition are referred to higher public health facilities and District Early Intervention Centres (DEIC) for confirmation and further management.

Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, has rolled out ‘Poshan Tracker’ digital application as an ICT based governance tool for monitoring and tracking of all beneficiaries on various indicators. An Artificial Intelligence-based Facial Recognition System (FRS) has been introduced in Poshan Tracker Application for last mile tracking of distribution of Take-Home Ration (THR) so that benefit is given only to the eligible beneficiaries registered in the application.

The Poshan Tracker is increasingly being leveraged for secure data interoperability with other government digital ecosystems. The Ministry has enabled integration with the ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) ID ecosystem of the MoHFW to facilitate continuity of care and strengthen convergence between nutrition and health services. Out of 8.96 crore beneficiaries registered in Poshan Tracker (June 2026), 5.02 crore have been seeded with an ABHA ID. Similarly, integration with the APAAR (Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry) ID ecosystem of the Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education has enabled to establish seamless linkage of children from Anganwadi Centres to the school education system. Out of 3.60 crore children registered on Poshan tracker in the 3–6 years age group, 1.12 crore have been issued APAAR IDs.

Further, Mother and Child Protection (MCP) Card is issued by MoHFW to Pregnant Women for educating them on diet, rest, danger signs of pregnancy, benefit schemes and institutional deliveries. MCP card is also a counselling and family empowerment tool for tracking the mother and child cohort for health, nutrition, immunization, and development purposes. It helps families to know about various types of services which they need to access for the health and wellbeing of women and children.

Nutrition goes beyond mere eating of food; it requires proper digestion, absorption, and metabolism of nutrients. This process is influenced by factors like sanitation, education and access to safe drinking water and is being addressed under the Mission Poshan 2.0 by establishing cross cutting convergence amongst more than 18 Ministries/Departments. As a whole of Government approach, high priority has been accorded to the issues of malnutrition in the country. MoWCD, MoHFW, DoSE&L and Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD) are continuously undertaking targeted interventions to improve the nutritional status of children in the country. Following convergent interventions have been taken by various Ministries of the Government in this matter:

- One of the major activities undertaken under Mission Poshan 2.0 is Community Mobilization and Awareness Advocacy to educate people on nutritional aspects as adoption of good nutrition habit requires sustained efforts for behavioural change. States and Union Territories (UTs) are conducting and reporting regular sensitisation activities under Jan Andolans during Poshan Maah and Poshan Pakhwada celebrated in the months of September and March-April respectively. More than 150 crore Jan Andolan activities have been conducted since 2018 through 16 Jan Andolans, each helped sensitizing not only the target beneficiaries but communities at large. Community Based Events (CBEs) have served as a significant strategy in changing nutritional practices and all Anganwadi workers (AWWs) are required to conduct two Community Based Events every month. So far, around 10.5 crore CBEs have been reported on Poshan Tracker from April 2022 to June 2026.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) 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. Under DAGJUA, 875 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) have been sanctioned for construction.
- Under PM-JANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan) being implemented by the MoTA which aims to provide basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water and improved access to education, health and nutrition, road and telecom connectivity, electrification of unelectrified households and sustainable livelihood opportunities in convergence with 9-line Ministries including MoWCD. A total of 2,500 AWCs have been sanctioned for construction in PVTG (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups) areas.
- In convergence with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) of Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), construction of AWCs is facilitated. Further, States and UTs have also been advised to continue to tap funds for construction of AWC buildings from various schemes such as Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), Finance Commission Grants to Panchayati Raj Institutions, Multi- Sectoral Development Programme (MSDP) of Ministry of Minority Affairs, etc.
- MoWCD and MoHFW have jointly released the Protocol for Management of Malnutrition in Children to prevent and treat severely acute malnutrition in children and for reducing associated morbidity and mortality.
- Also, MoHFW implements Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCAH+N) strategy in a life cycle approach under National Health Mission (NHM). This includes interventions to address nutrition concerns among adolescent girls, pregnant women, lactating mothers and children under 5 years, across the country.
- Anaemia Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan by MoHFW is implemented to reduce prevalence of anemia among seven beneficiary groups – Low Birth Weight Babies (0-6 months), Children 6-59 months, Children 5-9 years, Adolescents 10-19 years, Pregnant women, Lactating mother and Women of Reproductive Age (20-49 years) by seven interventions implemented through robust institutional mechanisms.
