

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 1280
ANSWERED ON 29.07.2026

**STATUS OF NUTRITION AND SAFETY OF TRIBAL WOMEN AND GIRLS IN
JHARKHAND**

1280. SMT. MAHUA MAJI:

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

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any assessment of the implementation of schemes related to nutrition, anemia and safety for women and girls in the tribal and aspirational districts of Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the main findings thereof and the amount of Central assistance provided for the said schemes in Jharkhand during the last five years; and
- (c) whether Government is considering to implement a special action plan to strengthen nutrition and women's safety programmes in the high-risk tribal areas of Jharkhand?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) To address the issues of malnutrition, gender inequality, and limited access to education and social protection and advance the agenda of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) has launched three umbrella missions: Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Nutrition and Early Childhood Care and Education), Mission Vatsalya (Child Protection), Mission Shakti (Women's Empowerment and Safety). These schemes adopt a convergent, multi-sectoral approach. Partnerships with Health, Education, Jal Shakti, Home Affairs, and Finance Ministries enhance impact and promote inclusion. These missions are being implemented in the entire country including tribal and aspirational districts of Jharkhand.

Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) of NITI Aayog has evaluated Centrally Sponsored Schemes of MoWCD. This evaluation (2019–2024) assessed MoWCD's scheme performance through sectoral and scheme-level analyses, best practices, and program harmonization, offering a roadmap for integrated and equitable development outcomes. As per evaluation study, flagship missions—Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, Mission Shakti, and Mission Vatsalya—now promote convergence, systems thinking, and inter-ministerial collaboration. Further study highlights that consolidating multiple programs into a single

framework, the government aims to provide unified citizen-centric lifecycle support for women through integrated care, safety, protection, rehabilitation and empowerment.

Details of the amount of Central assistance provided for Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, Mission Vatsalya and Mission Shakti in the State Government of Jharkhand during past years is placed at **Annexure I and II**.

Further, under Mission Poshan 2.0, significant measures have been taken by the MoWCD to improve nutritional outcomes in the country including tribal and aspirational districts of Jharkhand;

- Supplementary Nutrition is provided to Children (6 months to 6 years), Pregnant Women, Lactating Mothers and Adolescent Girls in accordance with the nutrition norms contained in Schedule-II of the National Food Security Act, 2013. Additional Nutrition is also provided to Severely Acute Malnourished (SAM) children in form of Take-Home Ration (THR).
- One of the major activities undertaken is Community Mobilization and Awareness Advocacy in the form of Jan Andolans (Poshan Maah and Poshan Pakhwada celebrated in the months of September and March-April respectively) to educate people on nutritional aspects as adoption of good nutrition habit requires sustained efforts for behavioural change.
- Further, Ministries of Women & Child Development and Health & Family Welfare have jointly released the 'Protocol for Management of Malnutrition in Children' for management of malnourished children and for reducing associated morbidity and mortality. The community-based approach involves timely detection and screening of children with severe acute malnutrition in the community, management for those without medical complications with wholesome, local nutritious foods at home and supportive medical care.
- MoWCD has launched 'Poshan Tracker' digital application, an ICT based tool, for monitoring and tracking of all beneficiaries on various indicators under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0). Technology under Poshan Tracker is being leveraged for dynamic identification of stunting, wasting, and underweight prevalence among children from 0-6 year of age group.
- To encourage diet-diversity and consumption of wholesome local produce, Poshan Vatikas have been developed at Anganwadi Centres (AWCs).

As informed by the State of Jharkhand, special attention is being given to the safety and protection of women and girls, particularly in tribal and aspirational districts. A network of 34 operational One Stop Centres (OSCs) is serving the State by providing integrated support such as medical assistance, psychosocial counselling, legal guidance, and police protection. In cases where victims lack secure shelter, these centres also extend a short stay facility of up to 20 days, ensuring immediate relief and protection. The functioning of OSCs is regularly monitored and reviewed, with corrective measures introduced from time to time to strengthen service delivery.

Complementing this, the Women Helpline 181 operates round the clock to support victims of domestic violence, harassment, cybercrime, and trafficking, offering timely intervention and access to services.

Additionally, under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme, a range of awareness programmes are being conducted across tribal and aspirational districts to promote women's safety, prevention of female foeticide, menstrual hygiene, and reduction of school dropouts, while also providing skilling opportunities to empower adolescent girls and young women.

Annexure-I

DETAILS OF THE FUND RELEASED FOR MISSION SAKSHAM ANGANWADI AND POSHAN 2.0 AND MISSION VATSALYA TO THE STATE OF JHARKHAND DURING LAST FIVE YEARS ARE AS BELOW:

Rupees in crore					
Mission	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Mission Poshan 2.0	352.98	430.91	664.3	496.95	429.26
Mission Vatsalya	12.48	7.43	37.66	18.73	31.64

Annexure-II

YEAR-WISE DETAILS OF FUNDS RELEASED UNDER MISSION SHAKTI DURING THE LAST 3 YEARS TO THE STATE OF JHARKHAND ARE AS BELOW:

Rupees in lakhs			
Schemes	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
One stop Centre	-	-	341.13
Women Helpline (WHL)	82.80	13.80	122.6
Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)	0.00	0.00	328.84
PMMVY	0	39.31	48.44
Shakti Sadan	94.76	4.77	6.47
Palna	1,003.32	-	16.74
SANKALP: HEW	185.04	1.38	100.57
