

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1990
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2026

DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

1990. SHRI I.S. INBADURAI:

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

- (a) whether Government has undertaken a comprehensive assessment of the socio-economic development, health, nutrition, education and safety status of women and children across the country;
- (b) the details of schemes, programmes and financial support provided for women empowerment, child welfare, skill development, education, nutrition and protection during the last three years and the current year, State-wise/UT-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to reduce malnutrition, improve maternal and child health, enhance women's economic participation and ensure equal opportunities for women and children?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Various schemes implemented by the Ministry of Women & Child Development for women empowerment, child welfare, skill development, education, nutrition and protection in the country have been reviewed and clubbed into three Umbrella Missions, viz. (1) Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0 for improving nutrition & health indicators (2) Mission Shakti, for safety, protection and empowerment of women; and (3) Mission Vatsalya, for protection, care and welfare of children in difficult circumstances. Details of the schemes are as under:

(i) Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0): In the 15th Finance Commission, components of nutritional support for children below the age of 6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers, Adolescent Girls (14 – 18 years); Early Childhood Care and Education [3-6 years]; Anganwadi infrastructure including modern, upgraded Saksham Anganwadi, Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent Girls have been reorganised under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0).

Under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, a package of six services are provided to the eligible beneficiaries i.e Supplementary Nutrition (SNP), Pre-school Non-Formal Education, Nutrition & Health Education, Immunization, Health Check-up, and Referral Services. Three of the six services, viz., Immunization, Health check-up and Referral Services are related to health and are provided through National Health Mission (NHM) & Public Health Infrastructure. Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 is a Centrally Sponsored scheme. Central Government is responsible for the overall planning and policy under the scheme whereas its day-to-day implementation falls under the ambit of State Government or UT administration. This Mission is a universal self-selecting umbrella scheme open to all eligible beneficiaries.

Further, Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) was revised from 01.04.2022 and subsumed under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0. The Scheme aims at providing nutritional support to Adolescent Girls (AGs) [14-18 years] for improving their health and nutritional status under the nutrition component and providing them IFA supplementation, Health check-up and Referral Service, Nutrition & Health Education and Skilling etc. fall under non-nutrition component of the Scheme. The targeted beneficiaries under the Scheme are AGs in the age group of 14 to 18 years in Aspirational Districts and all North Eastern States. NAVYA is a special pilot program initiated by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) in collaboration with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). It is aimed at skilling adolescent girls aged 16-18 in non-traditional job roles. It was formalized through an MoU signed on 11th October 2022. This program focuses on creating convergence in skill development efforts for young girls, especially in sectors where female participation is typically low.

Under the Mission Poshan 2.0, significant measures have been taken by the MoWCD to improve nutritional outcomes:

- Supplementary Nutrition in the form of Hot Cooked Meal (HCM) and Take Home Ration (THR) 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.
- Ministry of Women & Child Development and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare 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.

- To facilitate digital monitoring and review of the progress of the Mission, Poshan Tracker, an ICT-enabled governance tool has been implemented to monitor nearly 14 lakh AWCs. The Poshan Tracker facilitates evidence-based decision-making by generating relevant data, providing feedback to implementing authorities, documenting programme outcomes, enabling timely corrective interventions, and supporting continuous monitoring and evaluation of the scheme.
- Ministry releases funds to all States and Union Territories for procurement of Smart Phones to Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), Supervisors and Block Coordinators for registration, data entry, tracking and monitoring of all beneficiaries, in the Poshan Tracker application. Funds for Growth Monitoring Devices (Infantometer and Stadiometer for length and height measurement, Weighing Scale-Infant and Weighing Scale-Mother & Child for weight measurement of the beneficiaries) are also released to all the States and UTs.
- To encourage diet-diversity and consumption of wholesome local produce, Poshan Vatikas have been developed at Anganwadi Centres (AWCs).

(ii) Mission Shakti: The ‘Mission Shakti’ aims at strengthening interventions for women safety, security and empowerment. It seeks to focus on proposing strategies for improving convergence across Ministries/ Departments and at different levels of governance. Mission Shakti comprises of two sub-schemes ‘Sambal’ and ‘Samarthya’ for safety and security of women and empowerment of women respectively.

The “Sambal” sub-scheme is for safety and security of women. It has the components of One Stop Centres (OSCs), Women Helpline (WHL), Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) and Nari Adalat.

- **One Stop Centres (OSCs)-** One Stop Centre (OSC) provides integrated and immediate support and assistance under one roof to women affected by violence and those in distress, both in private and public spaces all across the country. It provides services like medical aid, legal aid and advice, temporary shelter, police assistance and psycho-social counselling to needy women.
- **Women Helpline (WHL)-** Women Helpline (WHL-181) provides 24-hour toll-free telecommunication services to support women in both emergency and non-emergency situations. It offers assistance to women affected by violence and provides information about government schemes and services all across the country.
- **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)-** Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme was launched on 22nd January 2015 to help address Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of empowerment of girls and women over a life cycle continuum. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme has transformed from policy initiative into national movement by mobilizing various stakeholders, including government agencies, media civil society and general public.
- **Nari Adalat-** Nari Adalat scheme provides a platform for alternative grievance redressal for women at the gram panchayat level. The Adalats are mandated to help women in distress at the panchayat level in resolving smaller issues relating to domestic violence, and other gender-based violence by negotiation, mediation, and reconciliation with mutual consent for accessible justice.

The “Samarthya” sub scheme is for empowerment of women. It has the components of Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), Shakti Sadan, Sakhi Niwas, Palna and SANKALP: Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW).

- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)-** The PMMVY is a Centrally Sponsored Maternity Benefit Scheme under which cash incentives of ₹5,000/- is provided directly to the Bank/Post Office account of the beneficiary in Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode for first child. The eligible beneficiaries receive the remaining cash incentive, as per approved norms towards maternity benefit under Janani Suraksha Yojana after institutional delivery, so that on an average a woman gets ₹6,000/-. Cash incentive of ₹6,000/- is also provided under PMMVY to eligible beneficiaries for second child subject to the second child being a girl.
- **Shakti Sadan-** Under the overarching ‘Mission Shakti’, erstwhile schemes of ‘Swadhar Greh’ for women in difficult circumstances and ‘Ujjawala Home’ for Prevention of Trafficking, have been merged w. e. f. 01.04.2022 and known as ‘Shakti Sadan Scheme’, which is an Integrated Relief and Rehabilitation Home-for women in distressful situations including trafficked women. It aims at creating a safe and enabling environment for the women in such difficult situations, to enable them to overcome the adverse circumstances.
- **Sakhi Niwas-** The Sakhi Niwas Scheme (Working Women Hostel) is a demand driven centrally sponsored scheme, under which funds are released directly to the States/UTs for implementation of the scheme and aims to promote availability of safe and conveniently located accommodation for working women in urban, semi-urban and even rural areas where employment opportunity for women exist.
- **Palna-** Palna Scheme is implemented with the aim of expanding the outreach of crèches to ensure that women everywhere have the opportunity to work and do not drop out from workforce because of care responsibilities. Palna aims to provide day-care crèche facilities to the children (06 months – 06 years).
- **SANKALP: Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW) -** The SANKALP: HEW (Hub for Empowerment of Women) which functions as a Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) for all components of Mission Shakti. It serves as a single window system to bridge the information and knowledge gap regarding schemes and facilities available for women as well as guide them to avail the benefits and entitlements.

(iii) Mission Vatsalya: Mission Vatsalya (erstwhile Child Protection Services Scheme (ICPS)) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) which is implemented through States/Union Territories (UTs) to deliver services for better outreach and protection for Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) and Children in Conflict with Law (CCL) which include Institutional Care and Non-Institutional Care in a mission mode with the objective to: (i) Support and sustain Children in difficult circumstances (ii) Develop context-based solutions for holistic development of children from varied backgrounds (iii) Provide scope for green field projects for encouraging innovative solutions (iv) Cement convergent action by gap funding, if required.

The scheme also provides for emergency outreach services (24x7) for children in difficult circumstances through Child Helpline (1098).

The State-wise and year-wise details of the funds released under the schemes of the Ministry during the last three years and current year are at **Annexure**.

In addition to the above, the Government has taken the following steps for the safety, nutrition, health and education of women and children:

(i) Samagra Shiksha: The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing an integrated centrally sponsored scheme for School education- Samagra Shiksha which treats school education holistically, without segmentation from pre-primary to class XII and is in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal for Education (SDG-4). The Scheme is aligned with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and aims to ensure that all children have access to quality education with an equitable and inclusive classroom environment which should take care of their diverse background, multilingual needs, different academic abilities and make them active participants in the learning process.

(ii) PM SHRI Schools: PM SHRI schools are set up by strengthening the existing schools from amongst schools managed by Central Government/State Government /UT Government/local bodies. These schools are to showcase all the initiatives of National Education Policy 2020 and emerge as exemplar schools over a period of time, and also offer leadership to other schools in the neighbourhood. They provide leadership in their respective regions in providing high-quality education in an equitable, inclusive and joyful school environment that takes care of the diverse background, multilingual needs, and different academic abilities of children and makes them active participants in their own learning process as per the vision of NEP 2020.

(iii) PM POSHAN: The Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme is one of the foremost rights based Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Under the Scheme, one hot cooked meal is served to students studying in Bal Vatika and Classes I-VIII in Government and Government aided Schools on all school working days. The PM POSHAN Scheme aims to improve the nutritional status of children, to encourage poor children belonging to disadvantaged sections to attend school more regularly and help them concentrate on classroom activities and also to provide nutritional support to children of elementary stage in drought affected areas during summer vacation and during disaster times.

(iv) Emergency Response Support System provides a pan-India, single internationally recognized number (112) based system for all emergencies with a location-based service/global positioning service for identifying location of distressed caller and facilitating dispatch of field resources to the location of distress.

(v) The Government has launched the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (www.cybercrime.gov.in) to enable the public to report all types of cyber crimes, with special focus on cyber crimes against women and children. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) provides financial assistance under the 'Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC) Scheme, to the States/UTs for their capacity building.

(vi) Government has implemented projects for setting up and strengthening of Women Help Desks in Police Stations and Anti-Human Trafficking Units in all districts of the country.

(vii) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare 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 as detailed below:

- Nutrition Rehabilitation centers (NRCs) to provide in-patient medical and nutritional care to children under 5 years suffering from Moderate and Severe Acute Malnourishment with medical complications. • Anemia Mukht Bharat (AMB) addresses the high prevalence of anemia through the 7x7x7 strategy covering seven beneficiary age groups and seven interventions through robust institutional mechanisms.
- Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA) Programme to improve breastfeeding coverage. • Under National Deworming Day (NDD) albendazole tablets are administered to reduce the Soil Transmitted Helminth (STH) infestation.
- Lactation Management Centres to ensure availability of safe, pasteurized Donor Human Milk for feeding sick, preterm and low birth weight babies admitted in Neonatal Intensive Care Units and Special Newborn Care Units.
- In Vitamin A Supplementation Programme, all children age 6-59 months are administered Vitamin A every 6 months in two rounds during Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Days or in campaign approach.
- Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Days (VHSNDs) are observed for provision of maternal and child health services and creating awareness on maternal and childcare including nutrition in convergence with MoWCD.

Annexure**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PARTS (A) TO (C) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1990 FOR 05.08.2026 BY SHRI I.S. INBADURAI REGARDING 'DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN'**

State-wise and year-wise details of the funds released under the schemes of the Ministry during the last three years and current year

I. Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0**(Rs in crores)**

S.No.	State/UT	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 (as on 20.07.2026)
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	12.15	9.63	8.1	4.46
2	Andhra Pradesh	705.68	645.73	759.76	276.91
3	Arunachal Pradesh	162.06	102.61	118.5	68.52
4	Assam	2233.31	2482.34	1548.67	957.74
5	Bihar	1859.29	2262.92	905.43	281.23
6	Chandigarh	19.79	14.56	9.87	5.34
7	Chattisgarh	579.46	733.3	518.22	159.21
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	11.97	9.13	5.92	2.04
9	Delhi	161.81	160.41	150.21	71.19
10	Goa	13.95	13.44	19.74	6.17
11	Gujarat	1126.8	601.32	699.13	173.97
12	Haryana	225.78	232.69	67.12	65.35
13	Himachal Pradesh	301.09	313.07	328.59	94.66
14	Jammu & Kashmir	530.88	662.79	401.62	231.27
15	Jharkhand	664.3	496.95	429.26	36.9
16	Karnataka	912.96	886.85	863.64	149.96
17	Kerala	306.64	435.74	283.81	148.57
18	Ladakh	19.62	18.89	16.41	8.72
19	Lakshadweep	2.88	1.35	0.82	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	1123.11	1144.54	937.45	451.84
21	Maharashtra	1699.52	1368.84	1405.45	261.47
22	Manipur	201.28	342.87	199.99	112.18
23	Meghalaya	269.69	137.93	182.04	32.29
24	Mizoram	100.27	55.29	52.69	23.98
25	Nagaland	262.91	147.01	146.29	27.99
26	Odisha	968.8	948.16	911.27	336.05
27	Puducherry	4.48	3.68	4.02	1.26
28	Punjab	307.87	265.48	190.73	69.13
29	Rajasthan	1091.96	741.85	843.51	175.06

30	Sikkim	33.49	18.07	18.21	14.62
31	Tamil Nadu	880.79	638.47	636.6	96.3
32	Telangana	507.87	430.76	209.2	154.86
33	Tripura	244.22	153.41	154.73	42.95
34	Uttar Pradesh	2668.69	2694.62	2145.42	808.56
35	Uttarakhand	288.24	216.33	271.05	99.1
36	West Bengal	1237.56	1513.8	1333.9	305.11

II. Mission Vatsalya

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Name of the State	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 (as on 26.07.2026)
1	Andhra Pradesh	25.01	44.03	38.72	2.01
2	Arunachal Pradesh	24.35	5.32	7.74	1.09
3	Assam	59.66	31.39	29.61	6.31
4	Bihar	65.18	53.35	51.95	8.00
5	Chhattisgarh	44.66	39.10	28.79	5.79
6	Goa	0.00	5.14	3.07	0.77
7	Gujarat	47.10	19.50	2.49	2.89
8	Haryana	16.17	6.40	7.85	0.73
9	Himachal Pradesh	21.15	37.68	22.56	2.32
10	Jammu & Kashmir	43.64	44.75	33.79	5.33
11	Jharkhand	37.66	18.73	31.64	0.65
12	Karnataka	90.94	86.48	45.48	2.88
13	Kerala	22.27	12.03	13.80	2.09
14	Madhya Pradesh	60.85	117.24	61.82	2.52
15	Maharashtra	95.38	144.97	78.90	3.93
16	Manipur	29.24	68.15	34.36	2.75
17	Meghalaya	31.28	22.30	42.75	6.09
18	Mizoram	53.09	37.06	33.65	2.34
19	Nagaland	29.28	33.92	25.66	1.91
20	Orissa	60.28	68.83	51.92	9.69
21	Punjab	15.44	14.76	13.94	0.97
22	Rajasthan	42.84	74.98	30.43	6.94
23	Sikkim	5.80	16.21	8.51	0.89
24	Tamil Nadu	128.70	122.82	89.14	18.15
25	Telangana	39.98	36.97	27.26	6.84
26	Tripura	32.09	19.23	18.11	1.40
27	Uttar Pradesh	103.57	92.05	107.15	11.01
28	Uttarakhand	32.63	14.49	20.14	3.70
29	West Bengal	57.42	70.18	47.50	12.41
30	Andaman & Nicobar Island	2.68	3.13	3.60	0.20
31	Chandigarh	5.83	7.63	4.90	1.04
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	3.19	9.91	2.89	0.88
33	Delhi	3.89	7.62	6.63	1.40
34	Lakshadweep	0.36	0.00	0.09	0.00
35	Ladakh	4.39	3.81	3.20	0.54
36	Puducherry	5.67	4.17	3.21	0.68

III. Mission Shakti

(Rs. in crores)

Sl No.	State/UT	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 (as on 20.07.2026)
1	A&N Islands	3.04	0.88	1.70	0.45
2	Andhra Pradesh	76.56	50.50	47.73	18.84
3	Arunachal Pradesh	9.03	12.17	11.11	1.50
4	Assam	204.96	98.64	39.07	26.61
5	Bihar	1.58	151.29	218.22	38.49
6	Chandigarh	5.32	4.96	6.16	1.94
7	Chhattisgarh	30.40	79.56	94.72	15.79
8	DNHDD	2.31	5.26	2.64	1.24
9	Delhi	31.45	25.80	8.77	8.30
10	Goa	0.94	2.68	2.06	0.75
11	Gujarat	97.94	82.39	72.30	13.78
12	Haryana	11.71	38.78	33.52	0.29
13	Himachal Pradesh	19.85	31.98	27.30	7.66
14	Jammu and Kashmir	58.40	58.88	34.27	7.91
15	Jharkhand	13.66	39.51	56.77	6.91
16	Karnataka	144.85	174.93	85.62	18.99
17	Kerala	69.17	11.15	77.66	7.51
18	Ladakh-UT	1.87	1.93	2.28	0.00
19	Lakshadweep	0.69	0.27	0.50	0.00
20	Madhya Pradesh	136.15	279.83	131.73	52.59
21	Maharashtra	30.32	154.62	160.88	46.88
22	Manipur	40.65	26.23	27.84	3.82
23	Meghalaya	7.58	10.25	21.91	3.94
24	Mizoram	14.44	19.59	22.55	5.81
25	Nagaland	18.63	26.56	12.10	6.06
26	Odisha	13.85	57.10	40.84	25.04
27	Puducherry	1.37	2.30	3.10	0.26
28	Punjab	42.89	38.05	38.43	4.94
29	Rajasthan	144.17	106.43	115.84	39.44
30	Sikkim	5.14	2.90	5.82	0.63
31	Tamil Nadu	44.48	124.85	159.36	38.94
32	Telangana	22.12	16.04	26.31	7.32
33	Tripura	14.53	13.59	16.51	3.24
34	Uttar Pradesh	40.02	34.81	34.39	49.32
35	Uttarakhand	41.80	28.07	49.11	11.03
36	West Bengal	7.20	6.42	7.92	1.44
