

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *47
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2022

“POSHAN ABHIYAAN”

*47 SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched ‘POSHAN Abhiyaan’ to improve nutritional indicators among women and children and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of targets set and achievements made under ‘POSHAN Abhiyaan’ during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether as per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5, cases of prevalence of anaemia in children and adolescent girls and cases of stunting have also increased and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to bring down such prevalence of anaemia and stunting among women, children and adolescent girls in the country along with the funds allocated/utilized under ‘POSHAN Abhiyaan’ during each of the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

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

Statement Referred to in Reply to Part (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.47 to be Answered on 09.12.2022 asked by Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari Singh DEO and Dr. Jayant Kumar Roy regarding " POSHAN ABHIYAAN"

(a) POSHAN Abhiyaan, a flagship scheme of the Government was launched in 2018 to address the challenges of malnutrition by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach. The programme makes interventions by use of technology, behavioural change through convergence and lays-down targets to be achieved across different parameters. The Abhiyaan has been rolled-out in all States and UTs.

(b) POSHAN Abhiyaan was launched to achieve improvement in nutritional status of Children from 0-6 years, Adolescent Girls, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers, in a time bound manner with fixed targets as under:

S.No	Objective	Target
1.	Prevent and reduce Stunting in children (0- 6 years)	@ 2% p.a.
2.	Prevent and reduce under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years)	@ 2% p.a.
3.	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among young Children(6-59 months)	@ 3% p.a.
4.	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among Women and Adolescent Girls in the age group of 15-49 years.	@ 3% p.a.
5.	Reduce Low Birth Weight (LBW).	@ 2% p.a.

The achievements under POSHAN Abhiyaan are as follows:

- i. Under POSHAN Abhiyaan, all the districts of 36 States/UTs have been covered.
- ii. Under Poshan Abhiyan, for the first time, the Anganwadi worker was empowered with mobile devices. Anganwadi workers have been provided with 11.22 lakh smart phones. Besides, to promote regular growth monitoring, 12.65 lakh Growth Monitoring Devices, such as Infantometer, Stadiometer, Weighing Scale for Mother and Infant, Weighing Scale for Child, have been procured by States/UTs under the Abhiyaan.
- iii. IT systems have been leveraged to strengthen and bring about transparency in nutrition delivery support systems. The 'Poshan Tracker' application was rolled out on 1stMarch 2021 through National e-Governance Division (NeGD), as an important governance tool. Around 13.9 lakh AWCs have started using the ICT Application.
- iv. A Web and App based 'Grievance Redressal Cell' has been established for effective service delivery and beneficiary feedback.
- v. Streamlined guidelines issued on 13th January, 2021 to ensure greater transparency and accountability and quality in nutrition service delivery.

- vi. Under key component of Jan Andolan, total five (5) Poshan Maahs and four (4) Poshan Pakhwadas held across the country since 2018.
- vii. Approx., 50+ crore Jan Andolan based activities have been conducted since the launch of the Abhiyaan.
- viii. Recently held Poshan Maah2022 during the month of September witnessed approximately 17 crore Jan Andolan based activities throughout the country.
- ix. More than 4 lakh Poshan Vatikas have been developed and 1.10 lakh Medicinal Saplings have been planted across the country.
- x. More than 10 lakh Frontline Functionaries have been trained on thematic modules
- xi. Around 3.70 crore Community Based Events (CBEs) have been organized since the launch of the Abhiyaan in a convergent manner in Anganwadi Centres with field functionaries.
- xvii. 10.14 crore beneficiaries have been registered under Poshan Tracker (as on 30-11-2022). Details are as follows:

Total Beneficiaries	Lactating Mothers	Pregnant Women	Children (0-6M)	Children (6m-3y)	Children (3y-6y)	Adolescent Girls (14-18 y)
101456672	5053003	7928715	4400327	40825291	41604731	16,44,605

- xviii. 86.39% of beneficiaries registered on the Poshan Tracker have been successfully Aadhar verified.
- xviii. For the first time, Migration facility for pregnant women and lactating mothers from one AWC to another within and outside a State has been facilitated under the Poshan Tracker. Migration facility from one category to another category of beneficiary is also available. Integration of the Poshan Tracker with RCH portal is under process
- xviii. Area-wise diet charts for pregnant women were laid on the Table in Lok Sabha on 15th September 2020 and 23rd September 2020. Further, the diet charts have also been uploaded on Ministry's website in English and Hindi.
- xviii. Best Practices on use of millets and improvement in SAM children were recognized and selected for the PM's Award for Excellence for promotion of Jan Bhagidari in Poshan Abhiyaan on 21st April 2022. These best practices were shared with all States/UTs. These included Mission Sampurna Poshan in Asifabad, Telangana, Mera Bachccha Abhiyaan Model in Datia, Madhya Pradesh and Project Sampurna in Bongaigaon, Assam.

- xviii. The estimated number of underweight, malnourished and severely malnourished children under 5 years of age is obtained under National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. As per the recent report of NFHS-5 (2019-21), the nutrition indicators for children under 5 years have improved as compared with NFHS-4 (2015-16). Wasting has improved from 21% (NFHS-4) to 19.3 % (NFHS-5), Under nutrition has improved from 35.7% (NFHS-4) to 32.1% (NFHS-5) and stunting has improved from 38.4%(NFHS-4) to 35.5% (NFHS-5)
- xix. A national Poshan Helpline has been made available for beneficiaries and public Through the help line a beneficiary can raise a concern about the services offered under Mission Poshan 2.0.

(c) The prevalence of anemia among children aged 6-59 months in the country as per the National Family Health Survey 5 (2019-21) is 67.1 percent and the prevalence of anemia among adolescents (women aged 15-19 years) is 59.1 percent. The State and UT-wise details is attached at **Annexure I**.

The prevalence of Stunting has reduced from 38.4% in NFHS 4 to 35.5% in NFHS 5. The State/UT wise details are attached at **Annexure II**.

(d) Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is making serious efforts to address this issue. The efforts under the Supplementary Nutrition Programme under Anganwadi Services and POSHAN Abhiyaan have been rejuvenated and converged as 'Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0' (Mission Poshan 2.0). It seeks to address the challenges of malnutrition in children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers through a strategic shift in nutrition content and delivery and by creation of a convergent eco-system to develop and promote practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity.

Poshan 2.0 focuses on Maternal Nutrition, Infant and Young Child Feeding Norms, Treatment of MAM/SAM and Wellness through AYUSH. It rests on the pillars of Convergence, Governance, and Capacity-building. POSHAN Abhiyaan is the key pillar for Outreach and will cover innovations related to nutritional support, ICT interventions, Media Advocacy and Research, Community Outreach and Jan Andolan. Steps have been taken to improve nutritional quality and testing in accredited labs, strengthen delivery and leverage technology under the 'Poshan Tracker', a robust ICT enabled platform to improve governance with regard to real time monitoring of provisioning of supplementary nutrition for prompt supervision and management of services.

Government released Streamlined Guidelines dated 13.1.2021 for greater transparency, accountability and quality in the nutrition support programme and service delivery. These guidelines emphasize on ensuring the quality of supplementary nutrition, highlights roles and responsibilities of duty holders, IT enabled data management and monitoring, leveraging of traditional knowledge through AYUSH, procurement and convergence for achieving good nutritional outcomes.

Under Poshan 2.0, focus is on diet diversity, food fortification, leveraging traditional systems of knowledge and popularizing use of millets. Nutrition awareness strategies under Poshan 2.0 aim to develop sustainable health and well-being through regional meal plans to bridge dietary gaps. A programme to support development of Poshan Vatikas at Anganwadi centers to meet dietary diversity gaps leveraging traditional knowledge in nutritional practices has also been taken up.

Further, the Government of India has launched Anemia Mukht Bharat (AMB) strategy with the target to reduce anemia in women, children and adolescents in life cycle approach. The 6x6x6 strategy under AMB implies six age groups, six interventions and six institutional mechanisms. The six interventions under Anemia Mukht Bharat strategy include, Prophylactic Iron Folic Acid Supplementation, Periodic de-worming, Intensified year-round Behaviour Change Communication Campaign, Testing and treatment of anemia, using digital methods and point of care treatment, Convergence and coordination with other line departments and ministries for strengthening implementation etc

Under POSHAN Abhiyaan, total Central funds amounting to Rs. 5402.95 crores have been released since 2017-18 and States/UTs have utilized Rs. 3572.77 crores (as on 31st March, 2022) to ensure eradication of malnutrition among the beneficiaries of the country. Details of funds released/ utilized under Poshan Abhiyan in each of the last three years is as under,

Financial Year	Fund Allocated/ Released (Rs. in crores)
FY 2019-20	1714.58
FY 2020-21	208.44
FY 2021-22	145.97

Funds have not been released to States/UTs, so far, in the year 2022-23.

Annexure I

State and UT-wise prevalence of anemia among children and adolescent girls

State/UT	Children 6-59 years		Adolescent girls	
	NFHS 4	NFHS 5	NFHS 4	NFHS 5
Andhra Pradesh	58.6	63.2	61.1	60.1
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	49.0	40.0	68.1	44.9
Arunachal Pradesh	54.2	56.6	48.2	48.5
Assam	35.7	68.4	42.7	67.0
Bihar	63.5	69.4	61.0	65.7
Chandigarh	73.1	54.6	74.7	57.7
Chhattisgarh	41.6	67.2	45.5	61.4
DND & DD	82.0	75.8	75.9	63.9
Goa	48.3	53.2	30.5	44.5
Gujarat	62.6	79.7	56.5	69.0
Haryana	71.7	70.4	62.7	62.3
Himachal Pradesh	53.7	55.4	52.7	53.2
Jammu & Kashmir	53.8	72.7	49.9	76.2
Jharkhand	69.9	67.5	65.0	65.8
Karnataka	60.9	65.5	45.3	49.4
Kerala	35.7	39.4	37.8	32.5
Ladakh	91.4	92.5	81.6	96.9
Lakshadweep	53.6	43.1	59.0	31.4
Madhya Pradesh	68.9	72.7	53.2	58.1
Maharashtra	53.8	68.9	49.7	57.2
Manipur	23.9	42.8	21.1	27.9
Meghalaya	48.0	45.1	52.1	52.5
Mizoram	19.3	46.4	21.3	34.9
Nagaland	26.4	42.7	26.3	33.9
NCT Delhi	59.7	69.2	55.1	51.6
Odisha	44.6	64.2	51.0	65.5
Puducherry	44.9	64.0	55.0	58.4
Punjab	56.6	71.1	58.0	60.3
Rajasthan	60.3	71.5	49.1	59.4
Sikkim	55.1	56.4	48.7	46.7
Tamil Nadu	50.7	57.4	54.2	52.9
Telangana	60.7	70.0	59.7	64.7
Tripura	48.3	64.3	52.2	67.9
Uttar Pradesh	63.2	66.4	53.7	52.9
Uttarakhand	59.8	58.8	46.4	40.9
West Bengal	54.2	69.0	62.2	70.8

Annexure II

State/UT wise prevalence of stunting among children under five years of age as per National Family Health Survey (NFHS)

S. No.	State/UT	Stunting (%)	
		NHFS 4 (2015-16)	NHFS 5 (2019-21)
INDIA		38.4	35.5
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	23.3	22.5
2	Andhra Pradesh	31.4	31.2
3	Arunachal Pradesh	29.4	28
4	Assam	36.4	35.3
5	Bihar	48.3	42.9
6	Chandigarh	28.7	25.3
7	Chhattisgarh	37.6	34.6
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	37.2	39.4
9	Delhi	31.9	30.9
10	Goa	20.1	25.8
11	Gujarat	38.5	39
12	Haryana	34	27.5
13	Himachal Pradesh	26.3	30.8
14	Jammu & Kashmir	27.4	26.9
15	Jharkhand	45.3	39.6
16	Karnataka	36.2	35.4
17	Kerala	19.7	23.4
18	Lakshadweep	26.8	32
19	Ladakh	30.9	30.5
20	Madhya Pradesh	42	35.7
21	Maharashtra	34.4	35.2
22	Manipur	28.9	23.4
23	Meghalaya	43.8	46.5
24	Mizoram	28.1	28.9
25	Nagaland	28.6	32.7
26	Orissa	34.1	31
27	Puducherry	23.7	20
28	Punjab	25.7	24.5
29	Rajasthan	39.1	31.8
30	Sikkim	29.6	22.3
31	Tamil Nadu	27.1	25
32	Telangana	28	33.1
33	Tripura	24.3	32.3
34	Uttar Pradesh	46.3	39.7
35	Uttarakhand	33.5	27
36	West Bengal	32.5	33.8

The note for supplementary is at the attachment