

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 601
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2022

“UTILISATION OF FUNDS UNDER POSHAN ABHIYAAN”

601 SHRI ARVIND DHARMAPURI

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

- (a) the funds released and utilized under the Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition (POSHAN) till December, 2022 ;
- (b) whether the Ministry has studied the reasons for non-utilisation of the funds released by the Union Government, since the inception of this scheme by the States;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ensure maximum utilisation of funds by States under the said scheme; and
- (d) whether the Ministry has conducted any study on the results of this scheme since 2017 and if so, the details and the outcome thereof ?

ANSWER

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

- (a) 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.
- (b) Poshan Abhiyaan was launched in the year 2018. Technology, Behaviour change and Convergence are the key planks of Poshan Abhiyan. Funds allocated to States/UTs under the Abhiyan were not fully utilised, due to, inter alia, inability of States/UTs to conduct Jan Andolan activities and Community Based events, following the onset of Covid-19 pandemic. However, any unutilized fund / excess expenditure incurred during a particular year under POSHAN Abhiyaan is adjusted in the allocation/release of the succeeding year.
- (c) The Government is making efforts to ensure maximum utilisation of funds by States under the said scheme. States/ UTs are encouraged to undertake activities under

Poshan Pakhwada (March) and Poshan Maah (September) every year. For the Poshan Maah 2022, close to 16 crore activities were conducted across all States/UTs. Further, Ministry is constantly engaging with the States/UTs to ensure saturation of procurement of Smartphones and Growth Monitoring Devices for the Anganwadi Centres under the Abhiyan. Best practices and innovations are also shared across States and UTs to ensure adoption and inspiration for innovations for good health and nutrition practices. States/UTs are advised to utilise the funds allocated under various components of POSHAN Abhiyaan as per the cost norms for effective implementation of the scheme. States/ UTs are mandated to submit their Convergence Action Plan and Annual Programme Implementation Plan to the Ministry to ensure effective utilisation of funds

(d) Development Monitoring & Evaluation Office(DMEO) under NITI Aayog has conducted Sectoral Evaluation of schemes including POSHAN Abhiyaan in the year 2020. As per the findings of the report, performance of the Poshan Abhiyan scheme was found Satisfactory in categories of Relevance, Sustainability and Equity.
