

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 663
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2022

MALNUTRITION AMONG CHILDREN AND WOMEN

663. SHRI P. RAVINDHRANATH:

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

- (a) the details about the total number of Anganwadi centres being set up by the Government under POSHAN Abhiyaan for the last three years with the aim to improve nutritional outcomes for children and pregnant women across the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has fixed any target to reduce the level of malnutrition among children and women across the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the follow up action proposed or taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) Anganwadi Centres are sanctioned under Anganwadi Services Scheme, which is now re-aligned as Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, along with Supplementary Nutrition Programme, Poshan Abhiyan and the Scheme for Adolescent Girls. The State/UT wise details of Anganwadi Centres set up by the Government to improve nutritional outcomes for children and pregnant women across the country are annexed.

(b) & (c) Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is making serious efforts to address this issue. POSHAN Abhiyaan, a flagship scheme of the Government was launched in 2018 to address the malaise of malnutrition by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach. To ensure a holistic approach, all districts of States/UTs have been covered in the Abhiyaan. The goals of POSHAN Abhiyaan are 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 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 ecosystem to develop and promote practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity. The Common Core of 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, Capacity Building, Governance and Outreach. 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.

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 provision of supplementary nutrition for prompt supervision and management of services.

Government has released streamlined guidelines dated 13.1.2021 for greater transparency, accountability and quality in 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. Further, a programme to support development of Poshan Vatikas at Anganwadi centers to meet dietary diversity gap leveraging traditional knowledge in nutritional practices has also been taken up.

Annexure

Total number of Anganwadi Centres Sanctioned and Operational as on 2021-2022

S. No	State/UT	No. of Anganwadi Centres	
		Sanctioned	Operational
1	Andhra Pradesh	55607	55607
2	Arunachal Pradesh	6225	6225
3	Assam	62153	61715
4	Bihar	115009	112094
5	Chhattisgarh	52474	51586
6	Goa	1262	1262
7	Gujarat	53029	53029
8	Haryana	25962	25962
9	Himachal Pradesh	18925	18925
10	Jharkhand	38432	38432
11	Karnataka	65911	65911
12	Kerala	33318	33115
13	Madhya Pradesh	97135	97135
14	Maharashtra	110486	109832
15	Manipur	11510	11510
16	Meghalaya	5896	5896
17	Mizoram	2244	2244
18	Nagaland	3980	3980
19	Odisha	74154	73172
20	Punjab	27314	27304
21	Rajasthan	62010	61625
22	Sikkim	1308	1308
23	Tamil Nadu	54439	54439
24	Telangana	35700	35580
25	Tripura	10145	9911
26	Uttar Pradesh	190145	189309
27	Uttarakhand	20067	20048
28	West Bengal	119481	119481
29	A & N Islands	720	719
30	Chandigarh	450	450
31	Dadra & N Haveli and Daman & Diu	409	405
32	Delhi	10897	10755
33	Jammu & Kashmir	30765	28078
34	Ladakh	1173	1140
35	Lakshadweep	107	71
36	Puducherry	855	855
Total		1399697	1389110