

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *140
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2023

“PM POSHAN SCHEME IN DELHI”

*140 SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has been able to achieve the objectives of PM POSHAN in Delhi, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the number of Anganwadi Centres in Delhi wherein PM POSHAN scheme is being implemented; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has conducted any study on the results of this scheme in Delhi, if so, the details and outcome thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the house

Statement Referred to in Reply to Part (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.140 to be Answered on 10.02.2023 asked by SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA regarding "PM POSHAN SCHEME IN DELHI"

(a) to (c) The Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN), under Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, is one of the foremost rights based Centrally Sponsored Schemes under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA). The Scheme is implemented across the country covering about 12.21 crore children studying in Bal Vatika and Classes I-VIII in 10.84 lakh Government and Government-Aided schools. The objectives of the Scheme are to address two of the pressing problems for majority of children in India, viz. hunger and education by improving the nutritional status of eligible children in Government and Government aided schools and encouraging poor children, belonging to disadvantaged sections, to attend school more regularly and help them concentrate on classroom activities as well as providing nutritional support to children of elementary stage in drought / disaster affected areas during summer vacation.

NITI AAYOG has conducted an evaluation of the Scheme through an independent third-party agency in 2019-20. An evaluation under the leadership of National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) was also conducted in 2017-18. The major findings of both the studies are as under:

- Nutritional level among students availing mid-day meal in schools is reported to have improved as attributed by Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey (2016-2018)
- 92% of the students attending schools were availing mid-day meal
- More than 80% parents stated mid day meal increased the enrolment & attendance, improved nutritional and health status of their children
- 96% teachers mentioned that mid day meal improved the nutritional status of the school children
- 92% teachers stated that mid day meal increased enrolment & improved attendance

Further, as per the information received from UT of Delhi, PM POSHAN Scheme is implemented in Delhi through Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi being nodal agency and provides hot cooked Meal to all eligible children. There are three other agencies which are providing cooked meal in their schools. i.e. Municipal Cooperation of Delhi, New Delhi Municipal Council and Delhi Cantonment Board. As per the records, the number of children covered under PM POSHAN Scheme are as under:-

1.	Bal Vatika	120637
2.	Primary	1021263
3.	Upper-primary.	787414

PM POSHAN is implemented in schools through Department of School Education and Literacy and not in Anganwadi Centres. A total of 10,899 Anganwadi centres are operational in Delhi. The Anganwadi Services under Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 is a universal self-selecting Scheme available to all the beneficiaries who enroll at the Anganwadi Centres. The beneficiaries under this scheme are children in the age group of 0-6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers. A package of six services is provided to all registered beneficiaries, namely, (i) Supplementary Nutrition; (ii) Pre-school Non-formal Education; (iii) Nutrition & Health Education; (iv) Immunization; (v) Health Check-up; and (vi) Referral Services.