

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *24
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2023

“POSHAN ABHIYAAN”

*24 SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:

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

- (a) the present status of POSHAN Abhiyaan under National Nutrition Mission;
- (b) the various measures taken to overcome the problem of malnutrition in a phased manner in Rajasthan; and
- (c) the details of amount spent under POSHAN Abhiyaan during the last three years?

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 LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 24* FOR ANSWER ON 03.02.2023 ASKED BY SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI REGARDING 'POSHAN ABHIYAAN'

(a) POSHAN Abhiyaan (erstwhile National Nutrition Mission) was launched on 8th March 2018 with an aim to achieve improvement in nutritional status of Children under 6 years, Adolescent Girls, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers in a time bound manner by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach. The programme makes interventions by use of technology, behavioural change through convergence and lays-down specific targets to be achieved across different monitoring parameters.. The present status of Poshan Abhiyan is as follows:

- i. POSHAN Abhiyaan has been rolled out across all the 36 States/UTs. The Abhiyaan covers around 735 Districts including 112 Aspirational Districts.
- ii. Under POSHAN Abhiyaan, for the first time, the Anganwadi worker was empowered with mobile devices. 11.22 lakh smart phones have been provided to Anganwadi workers. Besides, to promote regular growth monitoring, 12.65 lakh Growth Monitoring Devices such as Infantometer, Stadiometer, Weighing Scale for Mother and Infant and 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 1st March 2021 through National e-Governance Division (NeGD), as an important governance tool. Around 13.97 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. Besides, a national Poshan Helpline has been made available for beneficiaries and the public. Through the Helpline a beneficiary can raise a concern about the services offered under Mission Poshan 2.0
- v. Streamlined Guidelines were issued on 13th January, 2021 to ensure greater transparency and accountability and quality in nutrition service delivery.
- vi. Under the key component of Jan Andolan, total five (5) Poshan Maahs and four (4) Poshan Pakhwadas have been held across the country since 2018. Approx., 60+ crore Jan Andolan based activities have been conducted since the launch of the Abhiyaan. The Poshan Maah conducted during the month of September 2022 witnessed approximately 17 crore Jan Andolan based activities throughout the country. Around 3.70 crore Community Based Events (CBEs) have also been organized since the launch of the Abhiyaan in a convergent manner at Anganwadi Centres with field functionaries.
- vii. More than 4 lakh Poshan Vatikas have been developed and 1.10 lakh Medicinal Saplings have been planted across the country.
- viii. More than 10 lakh Frontline Functionaries have been trained on thematic modules.
- ix. 10.10 crore beneficiaries have been registered under Poshan Tracker (as on 31-12-2022). Details are as follows:

Total Beneficiaries	Lactating Mothers	Pregnant Women	Children (0-6M)	Children (6m-3y)	Children (3y-6y)	Adolescent Girls (14-18 y)
10,10,50,463	52,41,440	80,40,215	45,95,834	4,06,33,040	4,25,39,934	18,11,961

x. 88.15% of beneficiaries registered on the Poshan Tracker have been successfully Aadhar verified.

xi. 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 in process.

xii. Best Practices on use of millets and improvement in nutritional status of severely acutely malnourished (SAM) children in districts 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, shared with all States/UTs included Mission Sampurna Poshan in Asifabad, Telangana, Mera Bachccha Abhiyaan Model in Datia, Madhya Pradesh and Project Sampurna in Bongaigaon, Assam.

xiii. 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-weight 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)

(b) Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is implementing Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 Mission Poshan 2.0) which includes key schemes such as the POSHAN Abhiyaan, Anganwadi Services and Scheme for Adolescent Girls as direct targeted interventions to address the problem of malnutrition in the country. The beneficiaries under the Anganwadi Services scheme are children in the age group of 0-6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers. Supplementary nutrition is provided to beneficiaries in the form of Hot Cooked Meals at Anganwadi Centres and Take Home Ration (not raw ration).

Mission Poshan 2.0, an integrated nutrition support programme has been announced in budget 2021-2022 for all States/UTs including the state of Rajasthan. It seeks to strengthen nutritional content, delivery, outreach and outcomes with focus on developing practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity to disease and malnutrition. Steps have been taken to improve nutritional quality, strengthen delivery and leverage technology under Poshan Tracker to improve governance.

Poshan Abhiyan, as a targeted scheme to address malnutrition has been rolled out in all 33 districts of Rajasthan. As on 31st December 2022, 48,77,364 beneficiaries in the State have been registered on Poshan Tracker, the ICT application facilitating data entry and monitoring of key services delivered under Mission Poshan 2.0.

The State has procured 67,467 Smartphones and close to 59,493 Growth monitoring devices such as Infantometer, Stadiometer and Weighing Scales for the Anganwadi Centres for regular growth monitoring of children registered in the Anganwadi Centres.

One of the key components under Poshan Abhiyan is Behaviour Change through Jan Andolan to instil nutrition and health seeking behaviour in communities. In the State of Rajasthan, close to 45 thousand activities were conducted during Poshan Pakhwada 2022 and close to 14.2 lakh activities were carried out during Poshan Maah 2022. Key themes included 'Mahila aur Swasthya', with a focus on anemia, 'Bacha aur Shiksha', Gender Sensitive Water Management and Traditional food for Healthy Mother and Child in Tribal areas.

As per NFHS-5 reports, in the State of Rajasthan, the nutrition indicators for children under 5 years have improved as compared with NFHS-4 (2015-16). Wasting has improved from 23% (NFHS-4) to 16.8 % (NFHS-5), Under-weight has improved from 36.7% (NFHS-4) to 27.6% (NFHS-5) and Stunting has improved from 39.1%(NFHS-4) to 31.8% (NFHS-5)

(c) The details of amount spent under POSHAN Abhiyaan during the last three years are as under:

Amount in ₹lakhs

Central Funds released in 2019-20	Central Funds released in 2020-21	Central Funds released in 2021-22	Total Central Funds released till 31.03.2022
171458.77	20844.66	14597.59	540295.40
