

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *342
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2023

“CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MALNUTRITION”

*342 SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA

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

- a. whether India ranks high in the world in terms of number of children suffering from malnutrition and underweight;
- b. if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- c. the details of the schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government to overcome the aforesaid problems and the funds allocated/released/utilized along with the achievements made thereunder during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise and State/UT-wise; and
- d. the further measures taken/being taken by the Government to eradicate the problems of malnutrition and underweight among children in the country?

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.342 by Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka to be answered on 24.03.2023 regarding “Children Suffering from Malnutrition”

(a) to (b) For estimating the number of underweight, malnourished and severely malnourished children under 5 years of age in the country a nationwide periodic survey is conducted by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare which is known as the National Family Health Survey (NFHS). The recently released report of NFHS-5 (2019-21) has reflected a decline in key nutrition indicators as compared to NFHS-4 (2015-16). 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).

Further, under Poshan Tracker, the ICT application for monitoring service delivery under Mission Poshan 2.0, out of approximately 5.6 crore children measured in the month of February 2023, the percentage of malnourished children (moderate and severe) is 7.7%.

(c) to (d) Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is implementing several schemes through States/UTs to address challenges related to under nutrition and malnutrition. This Ministry is implementing POSHAN Abhiyaan, Anganwadi Services Scheme, Supplementary Nutrition Programme under Anganwadi Services Scheme and Scheme for Adolescent Girls as direct targeted interventions to address the problem of malnutrition in the country. As a result of concerted efforts, the level of malnutrition has reduced in the country as is evident from the report of National Family Health Survey (NFHS) – 5 conducted in 2019-21.

The State/UT wise details of funds allocated/released and utilized during the last three years and the current year under these schemes is at **Annexure I, II, III.**

The schemes have been rolled out in all 36 States/UTs of the country. The efforts under the Supplementary Nutrition Programme under Anganwadi Services, Supplementary Nutrition Programme, revised Scheme for Adolescent Girls and POSHAN Abhiyaan have been rejuvenated and converged as ‘Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0). There are 7074 sanctioned projects under Mission Poshan 2.0 with 13.9 lakh Anganwadi Centres across the country. 9.94 crore beneficiaries, namely, pregnant women, lactating mothers and children under the age of 6 years, are registered for Anganwadi Services on the ICT application, Poshan Tracker, as on date, out of whom 91% are Aadhar-verified.

Under Saksham Anganwadi, 2 lakh selected Government- owned AWCs @ 40,000 AWCs per year would be strengthened, upgraded and rejuvenated for improved nutrition delivery. In the FY 2022-23, close to 40,000 Anganwadi Centres in Aspirational Districts have been identified to be made into Saksham Anganwadis, which will be enhanced with LED screens, Wi-fi, smart -visual teaching aids, Poshan Vatikas, Rainwater harvesting structures etc.

Further, Under Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP), more emphasis is being given on the supply of millets for preparation of Hot Cooked Meal and Take Home rations at Anganwadis for Pregnant Women, Lactating mothers and children below 6 years of age, as millets are known to have high nutrient content which includes protein, essential fatty acid, dietary fibre, B-Vitamins, minerals such as calcium, iron, zinc, folic acid and other micro-nutrients thus helping to tackle anemia and other micro-nutrient deficiencies common among women and children. As per the Scheme Guidelines issued for Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0, millets need to be mandatorily supplied at least once a week and suitably integrated in Take Home Ration (not raw ration) and Hot Cooked Meal in a palatable form. Further, to address the challenge of malnutrition arising due to micro-nutrient deficiency, only fortified rice is being allocated to States/UTs. In FY 2022-23, 1226115 MTs of fortified rice have been allocated to States/UTs.

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.

Under POSHAN Abhiyaan, for the first time, the Anganwadi worker was empowered with mobile devices. Anganwadi workers have been provided with close to 11 lakh smart phones. Besides, to promote regular growth monitoring, 12.53 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. Under key component of Jan Andolan, total five (5) Poshan Maahs and four (4) Poshan Pakhwadas have been held across the country since 2018, which have witnessed more than 60 crore activities.

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 ICT application, Poshan Tracker. 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.

Further, adopting a life-cycle approach to tackle malnutrition under Mission Poshan 2.0, Scheme for Adolescent Girls has been revised to target adolescent girls in the age bracket of 14-18 years in North Eastern States and Aspirational districts. Close to 18.89 lakh Adolescent Girls have been registered on Poshan Tracker from aspirational districts and North Eastern States.

Mission Poshan 2.0 is designed to address the issue of malnutrition through transparency, accountability, balanced diets, diet diversity and quality, greater grassroots involvement and last-mile delivery of services supported by key strategies, viz., corrective strategies to address nutrition related deficiencies, nutrition awareness strategies to develop good eating habits for sustainable health and well-being, strategies for communication and development of green eco-systems such as Poshan Vatikas at or near Anganwadi Centres, wherever possible and in Government led schools and Gram Panchayat lands where benefits can easily be given to women and children. 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.

Annexure I

State-wise statement of funds released / allocated and utilized (as submitted by States/UTs) under POSHAN Abhiyaan till 28.02.2023

Amount in ₹ lakhs

Sl.	States/UTs	Total Central Funds released / allocated till 28.02.2023	Total Central Funds utilised as on 28.02.2023
1	A & N ISLANDS	1343.49	413.54
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	25363.32	17560.81
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	2815.88	1064.21
4	ASSAM	32948.67	21276.28
5	BIHAR	49365.59	30678.39
6	CHANDIGARH	890.04	573.96
7	CHHATTISGARH	11434.54	7303.88
8	D & N HAVELI and DAMAN & DIU	1196.11	769.67
9	DELHI	3327.18	2549.6
10	GOA	456.04	249.13
11	GUJARAT	29127.69	22074.12
12	HARYANA	6808.82	5790.88
13	HIMACHAL PRADESH	10895.41	7711.43
14	JAMMU & KASHMIR	9224.35	9160.82
15	JHARKHAND	6665.8	5467.55
16	KARNATAKA	14276.52	13221.94
17	KERALA	10444.89	7474.28
18	LADAKH	118.76	9.94
19	LAKSHADWEEP	425.65	356.05
20	MADHYA PRADESH	39398.53	20087.83
21	MAHARASHTRA	60810.84	43714.39
22	MANIPUR	4389.99	3714.79
23	MEGHALAYA	5073.38	5073.38

24	MIZORAM	3328.51	2575.03
25	NAGALAND	5624.11	5263.99
26	ODISHA	28014.46	15172.11
27	PUDUCHERRY	943.62	264.58
28	PUNJAB	6909.84	30.24
29	RAJASTHAN	22904.21	12258.06
30	SIKKIM	1370.98	1370.988
31	TAMIL NADU	25060.44	21879.36
32	TELANGANA	17906.84	15786.92
33	TRIPURA	4135.95	3774.79
34	UTTAR PRADESH	56968.96	41834.8
35	UTTARAKHAND	13574.89	10769.92
36	WEST BENGAL	26751.08	0.00
Total		540295.40	357277.66

Annexure II

State-wise statement of funds released and utilized under Anganwadi Services during FY 2019-20, FY 2020-21, FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 (till 10.03.2023)

2019-20 (amount in ₹ lakh)			
Sl. No.	State/UTs	Funds released / allocated	Funds Utilized
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	69100.42	68577.36
2	BIHAR	127888.67	125363.59
3	CHHATTISGARH	48339.67	54635.36
4	GOA	1559.15	1701.61
5	GUJARAT	68684.12	70856.28
6	HARYANA	18029.66	14964.65
7	JHARKHAND	43355.99	42375.41
8	KARNATAKA	76966.72	87667.51
9	KERALA	32140.86	33120.36
10	MADHYA PRADESH	121491.90	125330.39
11	MAHARASHTRA	133136.17	141074.95
12	ODISHA	85993.04	87708.97
13	PUNJAB	20144.35	17510.59
14	RAJASTHAN	58453.75	59096.39
15	TAMIL NADU	64868.45	65280.11
16	TELANGANA	45841.08	42008.41
17	UTTAR PRADESH	236406.00	245280.88
18	WEST BENGAL	116399.75	132046
19	DELHI	13293.20	12385.06
20	PUDUCHERRY	489.43	642.63
21	HIMACHAL PRADESH	25181.85	25242.53
22	JAMMU & KASHMIR	31999.86	32697.65
23	UTTARAKHAND	30309.77	33475.62
24	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	1190.78	1129.98
25	CHANDIGARH	1347.93	1327.68
26	D. & NAGAR HAVELI	573.81	561.65
27	DAMAN & DIU	267.58	261.47
28	LAKSHADWEEP	132.51	126.98
29	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	12430.77	13478.5
30	ASSAM	121893.00	122538.08
31	MANIPUR	16157.52	14224.04
32	MEGHALAYA	18484.66	18081.39

33	MIZORAM	4814.39	5639.96
34	NAGALAND	15370.48	15080.04
35	SIKKIM	2023.90	2555.51
36	TRIPURA	16615.07	16384.61
Total		1681376.26	1730432.20

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Fund released /allocated during 2020-21			
		SNP		ICDS (GENERAL)	
		Funds released / allocated	Funds Utilized	Funds released /allocated	Funds Utilized
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	37135.93	39621.07	32145.17	35874.75
2	BIHAR	85607.81	92248.70	41451.77	45445.88
3	CHHATTISGARH	24593.07	26222.62	25841.06	26987.48
4	GOA	858.8	823.09	1165.27	892.91
5	GUJARAT	33671.97	50526.47	27761.28	29690.94
6	HARYANA	5919.04	9630.85	12194.63	11869.85
7	JHARKHAND	26033.9	13609.62	19750.86	19224.29
8	KARNATAKA	41000	58445.14	27641.75	35653.32
9	KERALA	13049.61	17111.18	18941.99	19153.59
10	MADHYA PRADESH	74405.7	55338.77	47631.89	53155.97
11	MAHARASHTRA	66330.71	86147.00	52452.49	57438.70
12	ODISHA	50299.05	50434.24	34353.21	38054.00
13	PUNJAB	4341.15	5640.37	12687.89	14216.29
14	RAJASTHAN	34894.46	36702.71	28231.15	32069.77
15	TAMIL NADU	39022.39	37167.33	22048.8	26062.17
16	TELANGANA	21522.15	25139.46	18408.88	21042.26
17	UTTAR PRADESH	139063.6	88800.15	59495.34	83636.83
18	WEST BENGAL	65848.2	31659.56	38757.05	58129.73
19	DELHI	6539.81	7179.30	3547.26	6331.49
20	PUDUCHERRY	0	84.54	424.39	251.48
21	HIMACHAL PRADESH	6919.79	7023.79	18632.28	21153.62
22	JAMMU & KASHMIR	4629.5	3512.05	24272.52	37184.90
23	UTTARAKHAND	14629.43	15276.49	17820.82	17265.85
24	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	406.43	406.43	1119.01	119.01
25	CHANDIGARH	633.26	633.26	594.07	594.07
26	D. & NAGAR HAVELI & DAMAN & DIU	410.11	410.11	491.43	491.43
27	LADAKH	554.23	554.23	1885.98	1885.98
28	LAKSHADWEEP	90.99	90.99	113.44	113.44
29	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	3708.17	3767.99	4420.82	2632.04
30	ASSAM	54495.86	69759.55	52880.27	52030.96
31	MANIPUR	10697.3	6667.96	6686.14	7993.14
32	MEGHALAYA	11648.95	11224.55	6044.17	6175.57

33	MIZORAM	2288.18	2288.18	5104.16	3580.04
34	NAGALAND	8232.9	8233.04	6688.44	6705.38
35	SIKKIM	336.42	517.57	2093.06	2067.21
36	TRIPURA	6503.02	7261.80	8734.45	10334.73
Total		896321.89	870160.16	682513.19	785509.07

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Fund released / allocated during 2021-22 (As on 31.03.2022)			
		SNP		ICDS (GENERAL)	
		Funds released/ allocated	Funds Utilized	Funds released/allocated	Funds Utilized
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	38268.02	Utilization not due for Financial Year 2021-22	36192.36	Utilization not due for Financial Year 2021-22
2	BIHAR	88368.99		69074.08	
3	CHHATTISGARH	26771.73		33742.69	
4	GOA	440.88		642.68	
5	GUJARAT	50526.47		32817.50	
6	HARYANA	5919.04		11384.31	
7	JHARKHAND	17595.38		17702.39	
8	KARNATAKA	58102.10		42268.09	
9	KERALA	19083.19		19714.48	
10	MADHYA PRADESH	55338.77		53208.14	
11	MAHARASHTRA	105239.33		66099.60	
12	ODISHA	49454.24		44205.33	
13	PUNJAB	4530.36		33821.32	
14	RAJASTHAN	31399.25		36865.38	
15	TAMIL NADU	36337.10		29201.03	
16	TELANGANA	24680.58		23552.1	
17	UTTAR PRADESH	139063.60		100914.99	
18	WEST BENGAL	32924.10		33911.12	
19	DELHI	7825.24		5465.76	
20	PUDUCHERRY	0		277.80	
21	HIMACHAL PRADESH	5766.40		19032.34	
22	JAMMU & KASHMIR	3458.83		37114.91	
23	UTTARAKHAND	15276.48		20088.77	
24	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	203.22		1248.96	
25	CHANDIGARH	702.83		704.95	
26	D. & NAGAR HAVELI & DAMAN & DIU	410.11		523.28	
27	LADAKH	277.12		1190.35	
28	LAKSHADWEEP	146.33		63.90	
29	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	4725.67		12357.17	
30	ASSAM	69759.55		62230.33	
31	MANIPUR	8588.77		14303.27	

32	MEGHALAYA	11051.14		6281.68	
33	MIZORAM	1862.77		3315.32	
34	NAGALAND	8232.75		7232.43	
35	SIKKIM	303.22		2269.84	
36	TRIPURA	6883.37		11789.1	
Total		929516.93		890807.75	

SNP- Supplementary Nutrition Programme

Funds released / allocated under Anganwadi Services Scheme for the year 2022-23 (Upto 10.03.2023)					
(Rupees in lakhs)					
	STATE	Anganwadi Services (General)	SNP	Saksham	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	28407.75	27851.95	525.58	56785.28
2	BIHAR	54637.62	95193.61	1697.77	151529.00
3	CHHATTISGARH	25307.02	26449.51	1957.92	53714.45
4	GOA	763.13	435.93	0	1199.06
5	GUJARAT	25501.13	25253.98	609.45	51364.56
6	HARYANA	14545.67	4439.28	3.56	18988.51
7	HIMACHAL PRADESH	5887.07	1795.96	72.86	7755.89
8	JAMMU & KASHMIR	23602.71	5250		28852.71
9	JHARKHAND	19053.2	16647.15	3028.88	98729.23
10	KARNATAKA	11210.69	10603.88		21814.57
11	KERALA	17063.87	9787.21	116.12	26967.20
12	MADHYA PRADESH	44170.13	52148	1021.3	97339.43
13	MAHARASHTRA	54123.66	102176.49		156300.15
14	ODISHA	34791.57	44941.67	2920.92	82654.16
15	PUNJAB	0	6568.4		6568.40
16	RAJASTHAN	30578.55	49697.77	102.93	80379.25
17	TAMIL NADU	8475.18	29266.8	290.76	38032.74
18	TELANGANA	19046.94	16521.87	221.91	35790.72
19	UTTAR PRADESH	79039.12	188948.75	1015.8	269003.67
20	UTTARAKHAND	17552.27	7314.71	247.09	25114.07
21	WEST BENGAL	54533	49386.15	2308.19	106227.34
22	DELHI	9921.39	5868.93	0.00	15790.32

23	PUDUCHERRY	0	0	0.00	0.00
24	ANDAMAN &NICOBAR	384.23	0	0.00	384.23
25	CHANDIGARH	832.39	2328.3	0	3160.69
26	DNH & DD	116.53	102.52	0.00	219.05
27	LADAKH	1253.86	622.71	0.00	1876.57
28	LAKSHADWEEP	0	42.83	0.00	42.83
29	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0	3781.53	71.51	3853.04
30	ASSAM	52437.35	88746.69	1803.05	142987.09
31	MANIPUR	10727.45	0	20.25	10747.70
32	MEGHALAYA	5187.93	8523.99	68.90	13780.82
33	MIZORAM	3072.52	1144.09	64.13	4280.74
34	NAGALAND	5424.32	6174.68	72.14	11671.14
35	SIKKIM	1734.47	232.76	64.13	2031.36
36	TRIPURA	7563.5	5162.53	146.25	12872.28
	Grand Total	666946.22	893410.63	18451.40	1578808.25

Annexure III

States/UTs wise funds released/allocated and utilized under SAG during last three years and current year (as on 17.03.2023)

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S No	State/UT	2019-2020		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23
		Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized	Released
1	Andhra Pradesh	127.39	43.02	11.28	13.01	0	9.02	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	33.71	0	1.11	1.11	0	0	0
3	Assam	488.62	1594.472	1919.17	155.17	0	571.87	0
4	Bihar	582.91	23.78	2.94	0	0	0	0
5	Chattisgarh	48.4	245.18	121.13	157.32	158.73	101.24	1283.43
6	Goa	43.1	0.07	0.02	0.028	0	0.02	0
7	Gujarat	1852.8	1668.67	870.58	1224.98	641.68	777.95	0
8	Haryana	70.56	22.19	0	13.41	0	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	NI	0	NR	0
10	Jammu & Kashmir	46.53	133.793	23.04	338.35	0	5.233	0
11	Jharkhand	254.39	0	33.01	0	0	0	0
12	Karnataka	1253.33	37.63	20.31	NR	0	0	0
13	Kerala	1.08	2.25	1.61	1.52	25.07	0.57	0
14	Madhya Pradesh	1068.55	2279.53	213.75	217.34	0	NR	0
15	Maharashtra	742.83	569.73	48.48	47.6	0	100.86	0
16	Manipur	96.86	2.71	9.12	0	0	0	0
17	Meghalaya	1278.81	37.69	4.06	28.87	0	0	0
18	Mizoram	13.56	4.98	2.78	2.78	0	0	0
19	Nagaland	223.29	207.56	187.76	187.76	154.97	195.68	28.16
20	Odisha	72.6	335.62	29.69	10.54	96.54	40.8	0
21	Punjab	0	0	4.67	0	0	NR	0
22	Rajasthan	0	130.35	58.94	525.47	0	533.95	0
23	Sikkim	0	8.64	0.04	0.04	0	0	0
24	Tamil Nadu	95.48	13.82	1.23	18.82	0	4.22	0
25	Telangana	151.54	0	29.69	0	0	0	0
26	Tripura	32.27	20.03	15.76	26.625	0	7.27	0
27	Uttar Pradesh	1827.57	2798.24	410.88	918.95	776.49	1030.76	0
28	Uttarakhand	0	0	20.31	0	0	0	0
29	West Bengal	126.72	144.22	31.71	NR	0	NR	0
30	Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	0.02	NI	0	NI	0
31	Chandigarh	2.46	2.2	0.2	0.2	1.74	0	0
	Daman & Diu	0	-	0	NI			0
32	D & NH	0	0.41	0.02	0	0	NR	0
33	Delhi	12.84	24.7	8.73	7.99	19.7	NR	0
34	Lakshdweep	0.04	0.02	0.01	0	0.29	0.13	0
35	Pondicherry	0	0	0.01	0	0	0	0
36	Ladakh			0	NR	2.08	NR	0
	TOTAL	10548.24	10351.51	4082.06	3897.883	1877.29	3379.573	1311.59

NR- Not reported, NI- Not implemented
