

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4869
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.03.2023

DIGITIZATION OF ANGANWADIS

4869. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, as Centrally Sponsored Schemes;
- (b) if so, the number of anganwadis that were digitally empowered, the number of Anganwadis Poshan Vatikas set up and where fortified rice & millets are being provided, under the scheme, in the Madhya Pradesh in general and in the districts of Panna, Katni and Chhatarpur in particular;
- (c) whether aspirational districts were to be given special focus under the scheme; and
- (d) if so, whether the special focus has been put on Chhatarpur of Madhya Pradesh, for it being an aspirational district?

ANSWER

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

(a). Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is implementing Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, (Mission Poshan 2.0), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 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. 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 eco-system to develop and promote practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity.

(b) Poshan Abhiyan, a mission mode programme launched by the Government in 2018 has been re-aligned under Mission Poshan 2.0. One of the core planks of Poshan Abhiyan is use of Technology in the fight against malnutrition. For the first time, under the Abhiyan, smartphones and growth monitoring devices (GMDs), such as Infantometer, Stadiometer and Weighing Scales have been provisioned for all Anganwadi Centres. Since the launch of the Abhiyaan, close to 11 lakh smart phones and 12.5 lakh Growth Monitoring Devices have been procured across the country. Further, under the Abhiyaan, IT systems have been leveraged to strengthen and bring about transparency in nutrition delivery support systems, through the application, 'Poshan Tracker'. Technology under Poshan Tracker is being leveraged for inter alia, dynamic identification of stunting, wasting, under-weight prevalence among children; and last mile tracking of nutrition service delivery.

In the State of Madhya Pradesh, all the 52 districts have been covered and the data of around 97,163 AWCs is captured under the Poshan Tracker application. The details of Poshan Vatikas and digital coverage in the three districts of Madhya Pradesh is as follows,

District	Number of Anganwadi Centres registered on Poshan Tracker	Number of AWCs having Poshan Vatikas
Panna	1492	587
Katni	1712	828
Chhatarpur	2058	920

Further, under Wheat Based Nutrition programme (WBNP), Fortified Rice are allocated States/UTs wise, not district wise.

The State of Madhya Pradesh has been allocated 19980 MTs of Fortified Rice during FY 2021-22 and 45415 MTs of Fortified Rice during FY 2022-23.

(c to d) Under Saksham Anganwadi, across the country 2 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) (40,000 AWCs per year) would be strengthened and upgraded for improved nutrition delivery and for early childhood care and development for children under 6 years of age. Saksham Anganwadis would have better infrastructure including internet/wifi connectivity, LED screens and smart learning and audio-visual aids and child-friendly learning equipment. This year 40,000 AWCs have been identified in aspirational districts for upgradation. In Chhatarpur district under Madhya Pradesh, 300 Anganwadis have been selected in the current FY for upgradation as Saksham Anganwadis and funds have also been released for the same to the State of Madhya Pradesh.

Further, the revised Scheme of Adolescent Girls targets adolescent girls in the age group of 14-18 years (who are outside the mid-day meal scheme) in the North East Region and Aspirational Districts in a focused manner to address both nutrition and non-nutrition elements.. From the district of Chhatarpur of Madhya Pradesh, 18,078 Adolescent girls have been registered on Poshan Tracker.
