

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO 122
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2023

FUNDS UNDER ICDS

122. SHRI RAMESH CHANDRA MAJHI:
SHRI UPENDRA SINGH RAWAT:

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

- (a) the present status of the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS);
- (b) the details of the measures taken for addressing the problem of malnutrition and strengthening the immune system in children;
- (c) the amount of funds allocated, disbursed and utilized during the last five years and the current year so far under ICDS in Odisha and Uttar Pradesh, district-wise; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to raise public awareness regarding the benefits of the scheme?

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. 122 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2023 REGARDING
“FUNDS UNDER ICDS”**

(a) Government of India has initiated Mission “Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0” which is a strategic shift to develop practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity from malnutrition. The Anganwadi Services, Scheme for Adolescent Girls and Poshan Abhiyan have been re-aligned under POSHAN 2.0 for maximising nutritional outcomes. Currently, the Anganwadi Services Scheme is implemented through 13.94 Lakh Anganwadi Centres across the country.

(b) Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is making sustained efforts to improve the nutritional status of children in the country. 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, Governance, and Capacity-building. POSHAN Abhiyaan is the key pillar for Outreach and covers innovations related to nutritional support, ICT interventions, Media Advocacy and Research, Community Outreach and Jan Andolan. 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 near real-time monitoring of provisioning of supplementary nutrition for prompt supervision and management of services.

Under Poshan2.0, 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/local wholesome foods to bridge dietary gaps. Guidelines for Mission Poshan 2.0 support development of Poshan Vatikas at Anganwadi centers to meet dietary diversity gaps and seek to leverage traditional knowledge in nutritional practices.

(c) Funds under Anganwadi Services are released to States and not to districts. The amount of funds allocated, disbursed and utilized during last five years and the current year so far under Anganwadi Services scheme for Odisha and Uttar Pradesh is placed at **Annexure**.

(d) POSHAN Abhiyaan 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 and behavioural change through convergence.

The Poshan Abhiyaan aims to foster behavioural change among individuals, especially parents and communities thus paving the way for a mass movement to promote transformative change, also referred to as '*Jan Andolan*'. An important focus has therefore been on 'Behaviour Change Communication' to address inadequate and inappropriate infant and young child feeding practices, and nutrition and care during pregnancy and adolescence.

Community Based Events or CBEs have served as a significant strategy in changing nutrition practices. CBEs help to celebrate critical milestones in the life of pregnant women and children below two years of age. The gatherings serve as a platform for disseminating essential messages and to counsel pregnant and lactating women on appropriate nutrition and health behaviour. Close to 3.70 crore CBEs have been conducted under the Abhiyan. At a national level, the *Rashtriya Poshan Maah* is celebrated in the month of September across the country while *Poshan Pakhwada* is celebrated in March. Over the years, themes have included overall nutrition, hygiene, water and sanitation, anemia prevention, importance of breast-feeding, growth monitoring, role of Poshan Panchayats, AYUSH for Well-being, Yoga for Health, importance of Poshan Vatikas for cultivation of local vegetables, medicinal plants/herbs at the community level, *Poshan ke Paanch Sutra* etc. So far, More than 50 crore Jan Andolan activities have been conducted across the country through 9 Jan Andolan campaigns.

In addition to CBEs and Jan Andolan, under the Abhiyan, funds are earmarked for States/ UTs @Rs 5 lakh per district per year for IEC to create awareness and disseminate information regarding the benefits available under the various nutrition and health related schemes and to guide citizens on how to access them.

Further, the Ministry has also prepared short beneficiary videos on the schemes for generating wider awareness and the same have been disseminated across the country and on social media handles of the Ministry.

Annexure

Annexure to referred to in reply to Part (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 122 to be answered on 28.07.2023 regarding “Funds under ICDS”

Sl. No	F.Y	Fund released under Anganwadi Services (Rs. In lakhs)			
		Odisha		Uttar Pradesh	
		Funds released	Funds Utilized	Funds released	Funds Utilized
1	2018-19	79544.95	78269.34	202972.91	223244.06
2	2019-20	85993.04	87708.97	236406.00	245280.88
3	2020-21	84652.26	88488.24	198558.94	172437.00
4	2021-22	93659.57	87074.70	239978.59	233160.68
5	2022-23	91559.27	UC/SoE not due	272052.80	UC/SoE not due
6	2023-24*	22202.52	UC/SoE not due	70123.11	UC/SoE not due

UC/SoE-Utilisation Certificate/Statement of Expenditure.

*-As on 30.06.2023