

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1407
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2023

DIGITISATION OF ANGANWADI CENTRES

1407 SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA

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

- (a) whether the Government has started digitisation of data pertaining to Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) across the country for their effective monitoring;
- (b) if so, the status of such digitisation in each State, State/UT-wise including Rajasthan;
- (c) whether the Government has proposed a timeline for the completion of digitisation of AWCs;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the initiatives taken by the Union and the State Governments to improve nutrition, literacy and numeracy skill of children in AWCs?

ANSWER

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

(a) IT systems have been leveraged to strengthen and bring about transparency in nutrition delivery support systems at the Anganwadi centres. The 'Poshan Tracker' application was rolled out on 1st March, 2021 as an important governance tool. The Poshan Tracker facilitates monitoring and tracking of all AWCs, AWWs and beneficiaries on defined indicators, such as basic details of the registered beneficiaries, growth measurement and nutritional status of beneficiaries, delivery of key Anganwadi services such as supplementary nutrition, daily activities etc. Technology under Poshan Tracker is being leveraged for dynamic identification of stunting, wasting, under-weight prevalence among children. Further, under POSHAN Abhiyaan, for the first time, a digital revolution was ushered in when the Anganwadi Centres were equipped with mobile devices. For the first time, Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) have been technology empowered with smartphones. Further, to promote regular growth measurement, 12.5 lakh Growth Measurement Devices have been procured by States/UTs for Anganwadi Centres. The mobile application has also facilitated digitization and automation of physical registers used by AWWs that helps in improving their quality of work. Around 13.96 lakh AWCs have started using the ICT Application. Moreover, around 10.11 crore beneficiaries are registered under Poshan Tracker and 94% are Aadhar verified.

(b) to (d) 13.96 lakh Anganwadis have already been registered on the Poshan Tracker across the country, which is nearly all of the operational AWCs. The State/UT wise Anganwadis registered under Poshan tracker including Rajasthan is at **Annexure I**.

(e) Government has accorded high priority to nutrition as well as early development of the children in the country. The Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0) launched in 2021, aims at developing India's human capital and integrates three existing schemes (Anganwadi Services, Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent Girls), adopting a lifecycle approach to malnutrition reduction. It shifts focus from calorific sufficiency alone to improved health, wellness and immunity through micronutrient sufficiency via a set of clearly defined strategies. It focuses on infant and young child feeding practices (including breastfeeding and complementary nutrition), maternal and adolescent nutrition, treatment of malnourished children, and promotion of AYUSH practices.

The Government is committed to ensure holistic development of all children under the age of 6 years, with a focus on building their skills in the key development domains identified under the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) viz., physical/motor, cognitive, socio-emotional-ethical, cultural/artistic, and the development of communication and early language, literacy and numeracy under 'Poshan bhi Padhai bhi' which is in pursuance of the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the ECCE Taskforce established by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi (PBPB) has been launched as a path breaking ECCE program to help India develop the world's largest, universal, high-quality pre-school network at Anganwadi Centres, in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. As part of the important component of Early Childhood Care and Education, Ministry has placed great importance on development and use of locally available and Do It Yourself toys for early learning at AWCs. All 36 States/ UT's have been paired to facilitate exchange of indigenous toys/folklores as part of the vision for Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. Detailed guidelines have been drafted and shared with all States on creation of DIY toy kits as part of Teaching Learning Material creation workshops. Under PBPB, focus is on including use of activities, play and indigenous and DIY toys for holistic development, through a national program.

Annexure I

State/UT	Total AWCs registered with Poshan Tracker
Andhra Pradesh	55615
Arunachal Pradesh	5642
Assam	61738
Bihar	114989
Chhattisgarh	51886
Goa	1262
Gujarat	53027
Haryana	25963
Himachal Pradesh	18925
Jharkhand	38431
Karnataka	65909
Kerala	33115
Madhya Pradesh	97135
Maharashtra	110429
Manipur	11509
Meghalaya	5896
Mizoram	2244
Nagaland	3980
Odisha	74157
Punjab	27314
Rajasthan	61873
Sikkim	1308
Tamil Nadu	54442
Telangana	35693
Tripura	10146
Uttar Pradesh	189024
Uttarakhand	20088
West Bengal	122442
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	720
Dadra & Nagar Haveli - Daman & Diu	405
Delhi	10899
J&K	28119
Ladakh	1144
Lakshadweep	90
Puducherry	855
UT-Chandigarh	450
