

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARED QUESTION NO. 1460
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2023

FACILITIES FOR ANGANWADI WORKERS

1460. DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA:
DR. BHARATIBEN DHIRUBHAI SHIYAL:
SHRI SHANKAR LALWANI:

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

- (a) the total number of Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) in the country and the number of employees working therein, state-wise;
- (b) the increase in number of AWCs and employees therein during the last five years, year-wise;
- (c) the steps being taken by the government to make AWCs digital and transparent; and
- (d) the details of the facilities being provided to the Anganwadi workers at present?

ANSWER

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

(a) As on 30th June 2023, total 13.96 lakh Anganwadis are registered under the Poshan Tracker application. The State/UT wise number of Anganwadis in the country and the number of Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi helpers (AWHs) working therein, as per Poshan Tracker, is at **Annexure I**.

(b) The year wise number of Anganwadis and employees therein during the last five years is at **Annexure II**.

(c) 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. 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. The mobile application has also facilitated digitization and automation of physical registers used by AWWs that helps in improving their quality of work. Poshan Tracker is available in 22 languages including Hindi and English. It has facilitated near real time data collection for Anganwadi Services such as, daily attendance, ECCE, Provision of Hot Cooked Meal (HCM)/Take Home Ration (THR-not raw ration), Growth Measurement etc. The App also offers counselling videos on

key behaviours and services which help disseminate messages on birth preparedness, delivery, post-natal care, breastfeeding and complementary feeding. Geo-mapping and onboarding of AWCs in PM Gati Shakti portal is being undertaken to enable focused interventions. Further, to ensure **last mile tracking** of service delivery **SMS alerts** to beneficiaries have been introduced on delivery of THR.

(d) For the welfare of Anganwadi Workers/ Anganwadi Helpers (AWWs/AWHs), the following facilities are being provided:

(i) Honorarium: From 1st October, 2018, Government of India has enhanced the honorarium of AWWs at main-AWCs from Rs.3,000/- to Rs.4,500/- per month; AWWs at mini- AWCs from Rs.2,250/- to Rs.3,500/- per month; AWHs from Rs.1,500/- to Rs.2,250/- per month; and introduced performance linked incentive of Rs.250/- per month to AWHs and Rs.500 to AWWs. In addition, States/UTs are also paying additional monetary incentives/honorarium to these functionaries from their own resources which vary from State to State.

(ii) Improvement in infrastructure: Under the revised Scheme, there is a provision of upgradation of 2 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) as Saksham Anganwadis with improved/upgraded infrastructure in Aspirational Districts @ 40,000 AWCs per annum upto 2025-26. In 2022-23, 41,192 AWCs have been identified for upgradation with inter alia LEDs and smart learning and teaching aids. Besides, the cost of drinking water facilities and toilets at Anganwadi Centres have been increased from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.17,000/- and Rs.12,000/- to Rs.36,000/- respectively. For construction of Anganwadi Centres in convergence with MGNREGS, construction cost has been revised from Rs.7 lakh to Rs.12 lakh per unit. Keeping in view the importance of nutrition and Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) services delivery, it has been decided to upgrade all Mini-Anganwadi Centres to main/regular Anganwadi Centres with the availability of an Anganwadi Helper.

(iii) Leveraging IT through Poshan Tracker: Under the revised Scheme, IT systems have been leveraged to strengthen and bring about transparency in delivery support systems at Anganwadi Centres. Anganwadi Workers have been technologically empowered with smartphones (approx 11 lakh). The mobile application has digitized and automated the physical registers used by AWWs which has also helped in improving their quality of work.

(iv) Promotion Avenues: 50% posts of AWWs shall be filled by promotion of Anganwadi Helpers with 5 years of experience and 50% posts of supervisors shall be filled by promotion of Anganwadi Workers with 5 years of experience subject to fulfillment of other criteria.

(v) Capacity Building: NeGD is regularly conducting field level trainings/workshops directly for Anganwadi Workers regarding use of the Poshan Tracker Application. Multiple rounds of trainings have been held both virtually and physically, in various districts across the country. Further, under Mission Poshan 2.0, Poshan Bhi Padhai programme has been launched which focuses on capacity building of Anganwadi workers to equip them to deliver quality early education.

(vi) Social Security Insurance Schemes: This Ministry has provided insurance benefits to Anganwadi Workers and Helpers under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima

Yojana (PMJJBY) for life cover of Rs.2.00 lakh (covers life risk, death due to any reason) to AWWs/AWHs in the age group of 18 to 50 years and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana for accidental cover of Rs.2.00 Lakh (accidental death and permanent full disability) /Rs. 1.00 Lakh (partial but permanent disability) to AWWs and AWHs in the age group of 18-59 years.

Now, this Ministry has decided to provide insurance cover under PMJJBY and PMSBY to AWWs/AWHs through their bank accounts and the funds towards premium payment will be released to the States/UTs on the prescribed cost sharing ratio.

(vii) Insurance cover under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package: Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers who have been engaged with the Covid-19 related tasks, have been provided with insurance cover of Rs.50 lakh under "Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package" with certain conditions.

(viii) Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan (PM-SYM): State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested to encourage eligible AWWs/AWHs to get themselves enrolled under the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Mandhan (PM-SYM) Pension Scheme on voluntary.

The age of entry to the Scheme is 18-40 years. PM-SYM is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme on 50:50 basis where prescribed age-specific contribution shall be made by the beneficiary and the matching contribution by the Central Government for availing the assured pension of ₹3,000/- per month on attaining the age of 60 years.

Annexure I

| State/UT | Total AWC Operational | AWW | AWH |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 55615 | 55173 | 29218 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 5642 | 4774 | 1676 |
| Assam | 61738 | 60508 | 47481 |
| Bihar | 114989 | 112510 | 81542 |
| Chhattisgarh | 51886 | 51071 | 25270 |
| Goa | 1262 | 1236 | 956 |
| Gujarat | 53027 | 52289 | 45334 |
| Haryana | 25963 | 24512 | 12524 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 18925 | 18757 | 17647 |
| Jharkhand | 38431 | 37980 | 28342 |
| Karnataka | 65909 | 65427 | 55548 |
| Kerala | 33115 | 33103 | 30658 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 97135 | 96099 | 39459 |
| Maharashtra | 110429 | 108745 | 56331 |
| Manipur | 11509 | 11493 | 9879 |
| Meghalaya | 5896 | 5895 | 3861 |
| Mizoram | 2244 | 2239 | 2063 |
| Nagaland | 3980 | 3936 | 3183 |
| Odisha | 74157 | 73744 | 54256 |
| Punjab | 27314 | 26135 | 13040 |
| Rajasthan | 61873 | 61351 | 33717 |
| Sikkim | 1308 | 1308 | 1248 |
| Tamil Nadu | 54442 | 43840 | 40785 |
| Telangana | 35693 | 34437 | 25862 |
| Tripura | 10146 | 10105 | 9445 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 189024 | 184174 | 120425 |
| Uttarakhand | 20088 | 19763 | 5690 |
| West Bengal | 122442 | 109454 | 98787 |
| Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 720 | 710 | 422 |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli - Daman & Diu | 405 | 402 | 331 |
| Delhi | 10899 | 10431 | 10423 |
| J&K | 28119 | 27069 | 15630 |
| Ladakh | 1144 | 1139 | 780 |
| Lakshadweep | 90 | 62 | 6 |
| Puducherry | 855 | 807 | 260 |
| UT-Chandigarh | 450 | 426 | 443 |
| Total | 1396864 | 1351104 | 922522 |

Annexure II

| Year | No. of operational Anganwadi Centres | No. of AWWs | No. of AWHs |
|-------------|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| March 2018 | 1363021 | 1293945 | 1166857 |
| March 2019 | 1372872 | 1302617 | 1184954 |
| March 2020 | 1381376 | 1326069 | 1183202 |
| March, 2021 | 1387432 | 1328617 | 1179303 |
| March, 2022 | 1391004 | 1314433 | 1167206 |