

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2681
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2023

POSHAN ABHIYAAN IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

2681 SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has been able to achieve the objectives of POSHAN Abhiyaan in Himachal Pradesh, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the details of funds released to the State of Himachal Pradesh from April, 2020 to June, 2023 under POSHAN Abhiyaan and Mission Shakti Scheme;
- (c) the number of Anganwadi Centres in Himachal Pradesh wherein POSHAN Abhiyaan scheme is being implemented, district-wise; and
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any study on the results of this scheme in Himachal Pradesh, if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) 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 Abhiyaan has been rolled-out in all the States and UTs, including all districts of Himachal Pradesh. The Abhiyan seeks to address the challenge of malnutrition with interventions through technology, behaviour change and convergence. Under the Abhiyan, 20,725 smartphones and 19280 Growth monitoring devices, such as infantometer, stadiometer, weighing scale etc have been provided to all Anganwadi Centres of Himachal Pradesh.

18,925 Anganwadi Centres of Himachal Pradesh are registered on Poshan Tracker, the ICT application developed for monitoring nutrition status and service delivery under the Mission. More than 5.12 lakh beneficiaries are registered, out of which 96.13% are Aadhar-seeded.

For estimating the number of underweight, malnourished and severely malnourished children under 5 years of age in the country a nationwide periodic survey is being conducted by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare which is known as the National Family Health Survey (NFHS). As per the recent report of NFHS-5 (2019-21),

the children under the age of 5 years, in Himachal Pradesh, who are wasted is 17.4% and underweight is 25.5%. As per data recorded in Poshan Tracker, ICT application for Mission Poshan 2.0, close to 3.68 lakh children under the age of 5 years were measured in the State in June 2023 of which, 2% were wasted and 7% underweight, which is significantly lower than NFHS indicators.

(b) An amount of Rs.194.38 lakh has been released to Himachal Pradesh under POSHAN Abhiyaan for the period from April, 2020 to June, 2023. Mission Shakti was launched in 2021-22 for the 15th Finance Commission period. The funds released under various components of Mission Shakti to State of Himachal Pradesh from FY 21-22 to June 2023 is Rs 4186.02 lakh

(c) The district wise details of number of Anganwadi Centres in Himachal Pradesh wherein POSHAN Abhiyaan scheme is being implemented is at **Annexure I**.

(d) NITI Aayog was mandated to conduct monitoring and evaluation periodically to assess the progress and impact of the programme. NITI Aayog assessed the implementation of POSHAN Abhiyaan since its inception and the key findings are as follows:

- Poshan Abhiyaan has helped to bring a strong focus on improving nutrition outcomes during the first 1,000 days.
- Nation-wide Jan Andolan under Poshan Abhiyaan has catalysed nutrition related behaviour change at scale for positive impact on feeding and health care practices.
- Poshan Abhiyaan demonstrated that the processes for inter-sectoral convergence are effectively operationalized through in place institutional mechanisms at multiple levels.
- Poshan Abhiyaan showed that technology can be leveraged for real time monitoring of large-scale health and nutrition programmes.
- Poshan Abhiyaan has supported the resilience of health and nutrition systems during covid-19 pandemic.

Annexure I

SN	District	Number of active AWCs
1	Bilaspur	1111
2	Chamba	1495
3	Hamirpur	1351
4	Kangra	4226
5	Kinnaur	235
6	Kullu	1095
7	Lahaul & Spiti	123
8	Mandi	3004
9	Shimla	2154
10	Sirmour	1486
11	Solan	1281
12	Una	1364
	TOTAL	18925