

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3818
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2023

NUTRITION DELIVERY SUPPORT SYSTEM

3818. SHRI ANURAG SHARMA:
SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) the details of the funds being allocated by the Government for the Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 programme, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has leveraged technology to strengthen and bring transparency in nutrition delivery support systems, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated nutritional standards/norms for the beneficiaries under the scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any provisions have been made for social audits and evaluation under the said program, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the details of quality testing mechanism adopted by the Government to ensure quality food; and
- (f) the number of Anganwadi Centres in the State of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan specifically in the Jhansi and Pali Parliamentary Constituencies along with the total number of beneficiaries who availed services from these centres?

ANSWER

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

(a) The Budget for Mission Poshan 2.0 is based on estimates arising from the implementation of the programmes under the Mission (Supplementary Nutrition, Anganwadi Services, Poshan Abhiyaan and the Scheme for Adolescent Girls) in the States/UTs. In case of additional requirement by States/UTs, revised budget allocation is sought from the Ministry of Finance at the time of Supplementary Grants. During the FY 2022-23 and 2023-24, Rs. 20263.07 and Rs. 20554.31 respectively have been allocated for the Scheme. State /UT-wise allocation is done based on the requirements projected by the states and the unspent balances with them.

(b) Under Poshan 2.0, Government has leveraged technology in the form of an ICT application, viz., Poshan Tracker, which was rolled out on 1st March 2021 to monitor near real-time progress under Mission Poshan 2.0. Technology under the Poshan Tracker is being leveraged for dynamic identification of stunting, wasting and underweight prevalence among children and last mile tracking of nutrition service delivery. The application also offers counselling videos on key behaviours and services which help disseminate messages on birth preparedness, delivery, post-natal care, breastfeeding and complementary feeding. The system enables near real-time monitoring of all AWCs,

AWWs and beneficiaries on the defined indicators. Beneficiary Redressal Mechanism is an integral part of Poshan 2.0. Poshan Tracker has a web based and an application based facility to raise concerns / grievances. Beneficiaries can utilise the facility and share their concerns directly with Anganwadi Worker. Also, a Poshan Helpline (14408) operationalised in November 2022 has been made available for registering concerns / queries. Through the help line a beneficiary can raise a concern about the services offered under Mission Poshan 2.0.

(c) Under the Anganwadi Services Scheme of Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0), supplementary nutrition is provided to pregnant women, lactating mothers and children upto the age of 6 years at Anganwadi Centres as per nutritional norms. Recently, these nutrition norms have been revised and notified on 25th January, 2023. The revised nutritional norms are more comprehensive in terms of quantity and quality of supplementary nutrition based on the principles of diet diversity to provide quality protein, healthy fats and 7 essential micro nutrients (calcium, zinc, iron, dietary folate, Vitamin A, Vitamin B6 and Vitamin B12).

(d) Streamlining Guidelines on inter alia, transparency, efficiency and accountability in delivery of Supplementary Nutrition issued on 13th January 2021 details the roles and responsibilities for monitoring the scheme at State, District village and community level. Further, the Guidelines of Mission Poshan 2.0 highlights mechanism for social audits for improved transparency of service delivery. The Scheme guidelines recommend that social audit shall be undertaken by stakeholders at the community level, such as Poshan Panchayats, Mothers' Groups and Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committees for regular monitoring. Also, it is recommended that the District Nutrition Committee, chaired by District Collector with representation from all line departments, should conduct spot checking on random basis.

(e) The administration and implementation of the scheme including distribution of supplementary nutrition falls under the ambit of State Governments/UT administrations as the scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme. However, the scheme guidelines recommend that States/UTs shall ensure the quality of Supplementary Nutrition provided with reference to the norms of food safety as well as nutrient composition and carry out periodic checks and get Supplementary Nutrition tested through the FSSAI owned/registered/empanelled/accredited laboratories for adhering to food quality standards and testing in accordance with Streamlined Guidelines issued by Central Government. Further, it has also been recommended that random testing be conducted by Anganwadi Services functionaries after receipt of stock at the AWC or at the Block level. Anganwadi Services functionaries i.e. CDPO or Supervisor shall draw the samples, as per the prescribed procedure and send the sample for testing to a FSSAI owned/registered/empanelled/NABL accredited laboratory. The District Nutrition Committee under the DM shall ensure periodic testing of THR in randomly selected Anganwadi Centers.

(f) The number of Anganwadi Centres in the State of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan specifically in the Jhansi and Pali Parliamentary Constituencies along with the total number of beneficiaries enrolled in Poshan Tracker, as on July 2023, are as under:

State/District	Number of Anganwadi Centers	Number of Beneficiaries
Uttar Pradesh	189045	21718597
Jhansi	1379	144367
Rajasthan	61874	4636094
Pali	1834	145496