

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3256
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2021

ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO ANGANWADI

3256 SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken cognizance of the findings of the Fifth Round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), indicating a rise in anemia in children and women;
- (b) whether the Government is taking any steps to ascertain the cause of his backsliding in nutrition progress and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to provide additional funds to “Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0” programmes in light of the findings of the NFHS-5; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) The nutrition indicators for children under 5 years, viz, stunting, wasting and underweight have shown improvement in the National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5) as compared to NFHS-4. As per the recent report of NFHS-5 (2019-21), the prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight has reduced from 38.4% to 35.5%; from 21% to 19.3% and from 35.8% to 32.1% respectively as compared to NFHS-4 (2015-16). Anaemia among children under 5 years and women aged 15-49 years has increased as per NFHS-5 as compared with NFHS-4 .

In order to address the challenges of malnutrition, Government has taken steps to improve nutritional quality and testing, strengthen delivery and leverage technology under Poshan Tracker to improve governance. Streamlined Guidelines were issued on Quality Assurance, Roles and Responsibilities of Duty Holders, procedure for procurement, integrating AYUSH concepts and Data Management and Monitoring for transparency, efficiency and accountability in delivery of Supplementary Nutrition on 13.01.2021. Government has advised States/UTs to launch a drive for identification of SAM children for referral to hospitals (if required) and AYUSH centres in accordance with the detailed action plan approved by the District Nutrition Committee to be finalized in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer.

Further, Mission Poshan 2.0, an integrated nutrition support programme has been announced in budget 2021-2022 for all States/UTs. It seeks to strengthen nutritional content, delivery, outreach and outcomes with focus on developing practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity to disease and malnutrition.

Budgetary allocation made under Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 for FY 2021-22.
