

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 741
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024

RASHTRIYA POSHAN ABHIYAAN

741. SHRI VARUN CHAUDHRY

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- (a) The annual targets set and achieved under Rashtriya Poshan Abhiyaan to reduce anaemia amongst pregnant women and children since inception of the scheme;
- (b) The expenditure incurred to reduce anaemia among pregnant women and children since inception of the scheme, year-wise; and
- (c) Whether there is any proposal to review the scheme for better results and if so, the details thereof, if not the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (c) The Government of India is implementing Anaemia Mukh Bharat (AMB) programme under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to reduce anaemia in children (6-59 months), children (5-9 years), adolescents (10-19 years), pregnant women, lactating women and in women of reproductive age group (15-49 years) in life cycle approach through implementation of six interventions - prophylactic Iron Folic Acid Supplementation; periodic deworming; intensified year-round Behaviour Change Communication Campaign; testing of anemia using digital invasive haemoglobinometer and point of care treatment; provision of Iron Folic Acid fortified foods in public health programmes; addressing non-nutritional causes of anemia in endemic pockets via robust institutional mechanisms. The Iron and Folic Acid supplementation coverage is 95.0% among pregnant women and 38.4 % among children 6-59 months across the country as per HMIS 2023-24.

Further, Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0), under Ministry of Women & Child Development is a flagship programme of Government of India which seeks to address the challenge of malnutrition through improved nutrition content and delivery. Under 15th Finance Commission, Anganwadi services, Poshan

Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent girls (14-18 years in Aspirational Districts and North-East region) were subsumed under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0). In the Mission Poshan 2.0, a strategic shift has been made for reduction in malnutrition and for improved health, wellness and immunity through community engagement, outreach, behavioral change, and advocacy. Mission Poshan 2.0 focuses on Maternal Nutrition, Infant and Young Child Feeding Norms, treatment of Severe Acute Malnourished (SAM)/Moderate Acute Malnourished (MAM) and wellness through AYUSH practices to reduce wasting and underweight prevalence beside stunting and anaemia.

Nutritional support through Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) is one of the integral components of Mission Poshan 2.0, under which supplementary nutrition is provided to children (06 months to 6 years), pregnant women and lactating mothers (PWLM) and Adolescent Girls (14 to 18 years in Aspirational districts and North-East States) primarily to bridge the gap in the intake of nutrients.

Supplementary Nutrition is provided in accordance with the nutrition norms contained in Schedule-II of the National Food Security Act. To address the challenge of malnutrition more effectively, these nutrition norms have been revised. The old nutrition norms were largely calorie-specific; however, the revised nutritional norms are more comprehensive and balanced in terms of both quantity and quality of supplementary nutrition based on the principles of diet diversity that provides quality protein, healthy fats and micronutrients.

Only fortified rice is being supplied to AWCs to meet the requirement of micronutrients and control anaemia among the children. Greater emphasis is being given on the use of millets for preparation of Hot Cooked Meal at least once a week and Take Home ration (THR – not raw ration).

Under Mission Poshan 2.0, one of the major activities undertaken is Community Mobilization and Awareness Advocacy leading to Jan Andolan to educate the people on nutritional aspects. State and UTs are conducting and reporting regular sensitisation activities under community engagement programmes during Poshan Maahs and Poshan Pakhwadas celebrated in the months of September and March-April respectively. To give high importance to issues around Anaemia, dedicated “Anaemia related themes have been undertaken by Ministry of Women & Child Development under Poshan Abhiyaan. Community Based Events (CBEs) have served as a significant strategy in changing nutrition practices and all Anganwadi workers are required to conduct two Community Based Events every month.

The funds allocated to all States/UTs under Anaemia Mukt Bharat program and Mission Poshan 2.0 during the last three years are tabulated below:

Financial Year	Amount	
	in ₹ crores	
	Anaemia Mukt Bharat	Mission Poshan 2.0
2021-22	2203.71	18368.00
2022-23	823.00	19849.81
2023-24	862.80	21741.19
