

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 761
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024

“POSHAN ABHIYAAN IN WEST BENGAL”

761. SHRI KHALILUR RAHAMAN

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

- (a) whether it is true that the Government has been able to achieve the objectives of Poshan Abhiyaan in West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of Anganwadi Centres in West Bengal where Poshan Abhiyaan is being implemented, district-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any study on the results of this scheme in the State; and
- (e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (c) 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). It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, where the responsibility of implementation of scheme is with the States. The scheme is being implemented in all the 23 Districts of West Bengal.

The indicators for malnutrition like children being underweight, stunted and wasted have shown a steady improvement in National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. As per the report of NFHS-5 (2019-21), the nutrition indicators for children under 5 years in the State of West Bengal as compared to NFHS-4 (2015-16) in Stunting are 32.5% and 33.8%, for Underweight prevalence 31.6% and 32.2% respectively, while wasting has remained constant at 20.3%.

However, as per the data of Poshan Tracker for the month of June 2024, around 72.18 lakh children under 6 years were measured in the State of West Bengal, out of whom 33% were found to be stunted and 12% were found to be underweight and 7% children under 5 years were found to be wasted. The levels of underweight and wasting obtained from Poshan Tracker are less than those projected by NFHS 5.

As on June 2024, 1,19,481 Anganwadi Centres are operational in the State, covering all the 23 Districts. District-wise details of operational Anganwadi Centres are at Annexure I.

(d) & (e) NITI Aayog conducted a third-party evaluation on implementation and impact of Anganwadi Services and Poshan Abhiyaan in 2020 and found its relevance to be satisfactory for tackling malnutrition in the country including West Bengal.

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 761 FOR 26.07.2024 REGARDING "POSHAN ABHIYAAN IN WEST BENGAL" ASKED BY Shri Khalilur Rehman

District-wise operational Anganwadi Centres*

Sl. No.	District	Operational AWCs
1	24 Paraganas North	10368
2	Alipurduar	3204
3	BANKURA	5739
4	BIRBHUM	5191
5	COOCHBEHAR	4188
6	DARJEELING	3252
7	DINAJPUR DAKSHIN	3279
8	HOOGHLY	6708
9	Howrah	4506
10	JALPAIGURI	3936
11	Jhargram	2477
12	Kalimpong	639
13	Kolkata	1529
14	MALDAH	5723
15	MEDINIPUR WEST	6636
16	MURSHIDABAD	9033
17	NADIA	6934
18	PASCHIM BARDHAMAN	2845
19	PURBA BARDHAMAN	6853
20	Purba Medinipur	6345
21	PURULIA	4945
22	South 24 Parganas	11364
23	Uttar Dinajpur	3787
	Total	119481

* As per Poshan Tracker data for the month of June 2024
