

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*68**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024

**ROLE OF AWWs AND AWHs**

\*68. SHRI SRIBHARAT MATHUKUMILLI:

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

- (a) the average number of Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) for each Anganwadi Centre, State-wise;
- (b) the works undertaken by a typical AWW in the Centre;
- (c) whether the multi-tasked Anganwadi Workers teach children of different ages at once; and
- (d) if so, the challenges and impacts of this arrangement on the quality of children's early education?

**ANSWER**  
MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**Statement referred to in reply to Part (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 68 to be answered on 29.11.2024 regarding "Role of AWWs and AWHs"**

(a) to (d) As per the mandate of Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, each Anganwadi Centre consists of one Anganwadi Worker (AWW) and one Anganwadi Helper (AWH) in the Main Anganwadi centre (AWC) and one Anganwadi Worker in the Mini AWC. The roles and responsibilities of Anganwadi Worker under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 are placed at **Annexure**.

Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi initiative of Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 was launched on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 to bring focus of the Anganwadi system on early childhood care and education and transform the Anganwadi Centre into a Learning Centre having high quality infrastructure, play equipment, and well-trained Anganwadi Workers to stimulate the creative, social, emotional and cognitive development of children under 6 years of age including divyang children.

A Two Tier Implementation Model, i.e. training cascade, is being followed throughout the Country for Training functionaries under the scheme i.e State Level Master Trainers and Anganwadi Workers. Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi Training covers all Anganwadi functionaries once in Year 1 and Year 2 as a basic ECCE and Nutrition training, i.e. Round 1, and then once again in Year 3 for deeper detailed training, i.e. Round 2.

To empower the Anganwadi workers and ensure optimal learning for all children including Divyang children, this Ministry has developed two curriculum frameworks - "Navchetana- National Framework for Early Childhood Stimulation for Children from Birth to Three Years, 2024" and "Aadharshila- National Curriculum for Early Childhood Care and Education for Children from Three to Six Years 2024" under Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi programme.

For children from birth to three years, "Navchetna" is used for holistic early stimulation, through responsive caregiving and opportunities for early learning and for optimal physical & cerebral development of children. Monthly age based activities for 36 months are provided that can be conducted both within the household as well as at the Anganwadi Centre, through all the contact points including home visits, monthly meetings, community-based events etc. Screening, inclusion and referrals for divyang children are also provided special focus.

Generally children enrolled from age three to six years visit the Anganwadi Centres where "Adharshila" is used for all domains of development/teaching as per the National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage 2022 (NCF-FS), including physical/motor, cognitive, language and literacy, socioemotional, cultural/aesthetic as well as positive habits. It provides a weekly calendar comprising 36 weeks of active learning, 8 weeks of reinforcement and 4 weeks of initiation, together with 5+1 days of play-based learning in one week, and three blocks of activities in one day. It provides for a combination of activities, including in-centre and at-home, indoor and outdoor, child-led and educator-led etc. Special focus has been given for the screening, inclusion and referrals of divyang children in every activity.

As part of the important component of Early Childhood Care and Education, MWCD has placed great deal of importance on development and use of indigenous toys for

learning at AWCs. All 36 States/ UT's have been paired to facilitate exchange of indigenous toys/folklores as part of the vision for Ek Bharat Sreshth Bharat. Detailed guidelines have been shared with all States on creation of Do-It-Yourself (DIY) toy kits as part of Teaching Learning Material creation workshops.

The Ministry has issued guidelines for organization of fixed monthly ECCE days and provision of PSE kit at Anganwadi Centres outlining different types of events that can be conducted by the Anganwadi Worker with the parents and community, aligned with the academic calendar, to help children with school readiness and life skills.

Under Mission Poshan 2.0, Anganwadi workers (AWWs) have been technologically empowered with the provision of smartphones for efficient monitoring and service delivery. The mobile application Poshan Tracker digitizes physical registers used by Anganwadi workers. This improves the quality of their work while simultaneously facilitating real-time monitoring of all activities going on simultaneously. Further, ECCE modules have also been incorporated in Poshan Tracker.

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## Annexure

**Statement referred to in reply to Part (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 68 to be answered on 29.11.2024 regarding “Role of AWWs and AWHs” -**

**Roles and responsibilities of Anganwadi Worker (AWW) is as under:**

- (i) To feed relevant beneficiary data in Poshan Tracker app on regular basis as instructed from time to time and generate/submit reports/ returns as specified.
- (ii) To weigh each child every month, record the weight graphically on the growth card, use referral card for referring cases of mothers/children to the sub- centres/PHC etc., and maintain child cards for children below 6 years and produce these cards before visiting medical and para-medical personnel.
- (iii) To carry out a quick survey of all the families, especially mothers and children in those families at least once in a year and to provide health and nutrition education and counselling on breastfeeding and infant & young child feeding practices to mothers.
- (iv) To organize non-formal pre-school activities in the Anganwadi for children in the age group 3-6 years and to help in designing and making of toys and play equipment of indigenous origin for use in the Anganwadi Centre.
- (v) To help pregnant and lactating mothers visiting the Anganwadi centre to get the birth of their child registered and share the information with the village level functionary who notifies the Registrar of Births.
- (vi) To assist the PHC staff in the implementation of the health component of the programme, viz. immunization and health check-up, ante-natal and post-natal check etc., to assist ANM in the administration of IFA and Vitamin A and to identify the children with special needs during her home visits and refer the case immediately to the nearest PHC or District Disability Rehabilitation Centre.
- (vii) To assist in implementation of Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) in Aspirational districts of all States and all States of North Eastern India and motivate adolescent girls and their parents and community in general by organizing social awareness programmes/campaigns etc.

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