

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1993**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6.12.2024

**CHILD NUTRITION IN ODISHA**

1993. SHRI SUKANTA KUMAR PANIGRAHI:  
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

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

- (a) the current status of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme, and its impact on reducing malnutrition rates in Odisha and Jharkhand, especially in tribal and rural areas where child mortality rates and percentage of anaemic children aged between 6 to 59 months remain high;
- (b) whether any initiatives are being undertaken by the Ministry to ensure effective implementation of community-based management of malnutrition and stunting among tribal children, if so, the details of targeted schemes or schemes such as ICDS and Anganwadi being implemented in the said States;
- (c) whether the Ministry has assessed the adequacy of food supplements and nutritional support provided to children through Anganwadis ICDS in the said States, if so, the details of any improvements or new strategies planned, therefor;
- (d) the details of the estimated allocation of funds for child nutrition programs in said States, for the next five years, year-wise and
- (e) whether the Government has any plan to collaborate with NGOs to enhance child nutrition services in rural and tribal areas, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

(a) to (e) Under the 15th Finance Commission, various components like Anganwadi services, Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent girls (of 14-18 years in Aspirational Districts and North-Eastern region) have been subsumed under the umbrella Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0) to address the challenge of malnutrition. This is a universal self-selecting (no entry barriers) scheme available to all the eligible beneficiaries who enroll at the Anganwadi

Centers (AWCs) and is being implemented in all States/UTs including the State of Odisha and Jharkhand. The scheme is being implemented through the State/UT Governments; this Ministry does not collaborate with any NGOs.

The objectives of Mission Poshan 2.0 are as follows:

- To contribute to development of human capital in the country;
- Address challenge of malnutrition;
- Promote nutrition awareness and good eating habits for sustainable health and wellbeing

Under Mission Poshan 2.0 a new strategy has been made for reduction in malnutrition and for improved health, wellness and immunity through activities like community engagement, outreach, behavioral change, and advocacy. It focuses on Maternal Nutrition, Infant and Young Child Feeding Norms, treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)/ Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and wellness through AYUSH practices to reduce prevalence of wasting, stunting, anaemia and being underweight.

Ministries of Women & Child Development and Health & Family Welfare have jointly released the protocol for Community Management of Malnutrition (CMAM) to prevent and treat severely acute malnutrition in children and for reducing associated morbidity and mortality. The community-based approach involves timely detection and screening of children with severe acute malnutrition in the community, management for those without medical complications with wholesome, local nutritious foods at home and supportive medical care. Those malnourished children which have medical complications are referred for facility-based care.

Under Mission Poshan 2.0, one of the major activities undertaken is Community Mobilization and Awareness Advocacy leading to Jan Andolan to educate 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. Community Based Events (CBEs) have served as a significant strategy in changing nutritional practices and all Anganwadi workers are required to conduct two Community Based Events every month.

Under this scheme, Supplementary Nutrition is provided to Children (6 months to 6 years), Pregnant Women, Lactating Mothers and Adolescent Girls to beat the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition by adopting a life cycle approach. Supplementary nutrition is provided in accordance with the nutrition norms contained in Schedule-II of the National Food Security Act. These norms have been revised and upgraded last year. The old norms were largely calorie-specific;

however, the revised 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.

Fortified rice is being supplied to AWCs to meet the requirement of micro-nutrients and to control anaemia among women and children. Greater emphasis is being laid on the use of millets for preparation of Hot Cooked Meal at least once a week and Take Home ration at Anganwadi centers.

Various rounds of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare since 1992-93 have shown improvement in malnutrition indicators in children across India. Details of these indicators for children since NFHS-1 to NFHS-5 are given below:

<b>NFHS Survey</b>	<b>Stunting %</b>	<b>Underweight %</b>	<b>Wasting %</b>
NFHS-1 (1992-93)*	52	53.4	17.5
NFHS-2 (1998-99)**	45.5	47	15.5
NFHS-3 (2005-6)***	48.0	42.5	19.8
NFHS-4 (2015-16)***	38.4	35.8	21.0
NFHS-5 (2019-21)***	35.5	32.1	19.3

\* Under 4 years

\*\* Under 3 years

\*\*\* Under 5 years

The above table gives a representative picture of malnutrition indicators among all children of 0-3 years, 0-4 years and 0-5 years age at the relevant time.

The projected population of all children up to 5 years in India for the year 2021 is 13.75 crores approximately (source: Population Projections for India and States 2011-2036, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare). However, only 7.54 crores children up to 5 years are enrolled in Anganwadis and registered on Poshan Tracker of the Ministry of Women & Child Development as per the October 2024 data. 7.31 crores of these children were measured on growth parameters of height and weight. 38.9% of these children have been found to be stunted, 17% children have been found to be underweight and 5.2% wasted.

Further, the projected population of all children in India up to 6 years for the year 2021 is approximately 16.1 crores (source: Population Projections for India and States 2011-2036, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare). As per the October 2024 data of Poshan Tracker, 8.82 crores children (0-6 years) are enrolled in Anganwadis out of whom 8.55 crores were measured on growth parameters of height and weight. 37% of these children (0-

6 years) have been found to be stunted and 17% children (0-6 years) have been found to be underweight.

The analysis of the above NFHS data and the Poshan Tracker data shows improvement in nutritional indicators of children across India.

Details of nutritional indicators of children in Odisha and Jharkhand as per NFHS 4, NFHS 5 and Poshan Tracker are at **Annexure-I**.

Mission Poshan 2.0 has a total financial implication of ₹1,81,703 crore, comprising ₹1,02,031 crore as Central share and ₹79,672 crore as State share for the 5 years period starting from FY 2021-22 till FY 2025-26. Details of funds released to Odisha and Jharkhand are provided at **Annexure – II**.

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**Annexure-I****ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA QUESTION NO. 1993 FOR 6.12.2024 REGARDING “CHILD NUTRITION IN ODISHA” ASKED BY SHRI SUKANTA KUMAR PANIGRAHI AND SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO**

Details of malnourished children (0 – 5 years) in Odisha and Jharkhand as per NFHS 4, NFHS 5 and Poshan Tracker are as follows:

State	NFHS-4 (2015-16)			NFHS-5 (2019-21)			Poshan Tracker (Oct, 2024)		
	Stunted (%)	Wasted (%)	Underweight (%)	Stunted (%)	Wasted (%)	Underweight (%)	Stunted (%)	Wasted (%)	Underweight (%)
Jharkhand	45.3	29.0	47.8	39.6	22.4	39.4	43.8	6.2	19.3
Odisha	34.1	20.4	34.4	31.0	18.1	29.7	29.1	2.9	12.8

**Annexure-II**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA QUESTION NO. 1993 FOR 6.12.2024 REGARDING “CHILD NUTRITION IN ODISHA” ASKED BY SHRI SUKANTA KUMAR PANIGRAHI AND SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO**

Under Mission Poshan 2.0, the total amount released to the States of Odisha and Jharkhand, from FY 2021-22 to FY 24-25 (till November 2024), is as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Fund released to Odisha (in crore)</b>	<b>Fund released to Jharkhand (in crore)</b>
2021-22	1065.98	352.98
2022-23	923.92	430.91
2023-24	968.80	664.30
2024-25	665.91*	333.40*

\* funds released up to 20 November 2024

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