

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *65
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2025

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ANGANWADIS

*65. DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN:

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

- (a) whether infrastructure has been reorganised in Anganwadis including modern and upgraded Saksham Anganwadis under the Mission Saksham Anganwadis for its fruitful implementation across the country including Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether modern and upgraded Saksham Anganwadis is contributing significantly in the rural areas of the country for generating employment among the downtrodden women, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has made any categorization in Anganwadi workers to give more priority/benefits to women belonging to SC/ST communities and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (C) OF LOK SABHA
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(a) to (c) During the 15th Finance Commission cycle, 2 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) located in Government buildings @ 40,000 AWCs per year are to be strengthened and upgraded as Saksham Anganwadis for improved nutrition delivery and for Early Childhood Care and Education under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0. Saksham Anganwadis are to be provided with better infrastructure than the conventional Anganwadi Centres including LED screens, water purifier/installation of RO Machine, Poshan Vatika, ECCE related books and learning material etc. As on date, 2 Lakh Anganwadi Centres has been sanctioned for upgradation to Saksham Anganwadi Centres. The State wise details of the same is placed at Annexure.

Under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, beginning from FY 2021-22, 50000 AWCs building are to be constructed over a period of five years @10000 AWCs per year. The cost norms for construction of Anganwadi Centres in convergence with MGNREGS is Rs.12 Lakh per AWC wherein Rs.8.00 Lakh would be provided under MGNREGS, Rs.2.00 Lakh under 15th FC (or any other untied funds) and Rs.2.00 Lakh by MWCD per AWC to be shared between Centre and States/UTs in the prescribed cost sharing ratio.

The unit cost approved for construction of toilet is Rs.36000/- per AWC and for drinking water provisioning the approved cost is Rs. 17000/- per AWC to be shared by Centre and States/UTs as per the cost sharing ratio.

Apart from this, the Government has issued orders for upgradation of all mini AWC to regular AWCs. This would add an Anganwadi Helper in these Anganwadi Centres across the country to share the burden of Anganwadi worker so that the component of ECCE can be strengthened. Out of 1,16,852 Mini-AWCs in 23 States/UTs, sanction for upgradation of 86,387 Mini-AWCs in 20 States/UTs has been issued till date. Further, directions have been issued to States/UTs to co-locate Anganwadi Centres, which are running on rent without sufficient infrastructure, at nearby Primary Schools, where space is available.

The PM JANMAN Mission launched by Ministry of Tribal Affairs and is aimed at targeted development of 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) residing in 18 States and a UT. This Mission focuses on 11 critical interventions related to 9 key Ministries including Ministry of Women and Child Development. As on date, a total of 2139 AWCs has been sanctioned for construction under PM JANMAN across the country.

In addition to above, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched Dharti Aaba Janjati Gram Unnat Abhiyan (DAJGUA) aimed at improving the socio-economic condition of tribal communities by adopting saturation coverage of tribal families in tribal majority areas and aspirational block ST villages. The intervention of Ministry of Women and Child Development involves establishment of 2000 new Saksham AWCs and upgradation of 6000 existing AWCs to Saksham AWCs from FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29. As on date, a total of 236 AWCs has been sanctioned for construction under DAJGUA across the country.

Anganwadi Centres functions by female Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers belonging to local community who come forward to render their service in the areas of nutrition and child development.

For leveraging convergence for food and nutrition, Poshan Vatikas (kitchen gardens and nutri-gardens) are set up at or near Anganwadi Centres, wherever possible and in Government led schools and Gram Panchayat lands where benefits can easily be provided to women and children. To initiate this program, the space in Anganwadi Centres, panchayat areas, vacant lands of village any other government premises such as school campus or any other patch of community/government land available in the locality, etc. are utilized. Adolescent girls and BPL women are engaged to manage the Vatikas.

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S.No.	State/UT	Total No. of AWCs approved for upgradation as on date
1	Andhra Pradesh	9,958
2	Bihar	11,529
3	Chhattisgarh	11,490
4	Gujarat	13,147
5	Haryana	2,804
6	Himachal Pradesh	1,030
7	Jammu & Kashmir	338
8	Jharkhand	16,775
9	Karnataka	17,732
10	Kerala	4152
11	Madhya Pradesh	24,662
12	Maharashtra	14,745
13	Odisha	12,140
14	Punjab	353
15	Rajasthan	3514
16	Tamil Nadu	11,972
17	Telangana	5,008
18	Uttar Pradesh	23,697
19	Uttarakhand	827
20	West Bengal	5,359
21	Arunachal Pradesh	152
22	Assam	5,407
23	Manipur	30
24	Meghalaya	121
25	Mizoram	1,600
26	Nagaland	149
27	Sikkim	435
28	Tripura	474
29	Andaman & Nicobar	140
30	Goa	24
31	Puducherry	135
32	Chandigarh	69
33	Ladakh	14
36	Lakshadweep	18
	Total	2,00,000