

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2723
ANSWERED ON- 17.03.2025

PM POSHAN Scheme

†2723. Shri Sanjay Uttamrao Deshmukh:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the implementation of Prime Minister Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme along with the number of beneficiaries of the scheme, State-wise;
- (b) whether the students studying in 'Bal Vatikas' have been covered under the PM POSHAN scheme and if so, the number of said beneficiaries of the scheme, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has been able to include Farmer Produce Organisations and Women Self-help Groups in the implementation of PM POSHAN scheme and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of States which have adopted Direct Benefit Transfer for making payment to cooks and assistants under the said Scheme; and
- (e) the number of social audits carried out to study the implementation of the said scheme since its inception, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a): & (b): Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme is one of the foremost rights based Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented in partnership with the States and UTs for providing one hot cooked and nutritious meal to all children studying in Bal Vatika (just before class-I) and classes I to VIII of Government and Government-aided schools. During 2024-25, about 11.20 crore children studying in 10.36 lakh institutions have been benefitted under the Scheme. The detail of number of beneficiaries including Balvatika under the scheme, State-wise is at **Annexure-I**.

(c): The PM POSHAN Scheme is implemented in partnership with the States and Union Territory Administrations. The overall responsibilities for providing nutritious and hot cooked meal to the eligible children lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations in accordance with the Guidelines laid down by the Central Government. All the States and Union Territory Administrations are encouraged to decide menu suitable to the local conditions within the prescribed nutrition and food norms and to procure locally grown food items like millets, vegetables, condiments etc. from Farmers' Producers Organizations, Federation of Women's Self-Help Groups etc. so as to promote local

employment generation and economic development while simultaneously improving the nutrition standards. Further, as per PM POSHAN Guidelines, the responsibility for cooking/ supply of cooked meal should be, as far as possible, assigned to one of the Cook-Cum-Helpers and Local women's/ mother's Self-Help Group (SHG). States/UTs are advised that wherever possible they can utilise the services of Farmers' Producers Organizations and Women's Self-Help Groups.

(d): All States/UTs are providing honorarium to cook-cum-helpers into their respective bank accounts.

(e): Social Audit is collective monitoring of a Scheme by people's active involvement covering issues of equity, equality, and expenditure management. Comprehensive and detailed Guidelines to conduct Social Audit under the scheme have been issued in 2022-23 to all the States/UTs. As per Guidelines, Social Audit is made mandatory in all Districts in at least 20 schools or 2% schools, whichever is higher. The State/UT-wise number of social audits is at **Annexure-II**.

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2723 for 17.03.2025 asked by Hon'ble MP Shri Sanjay Uttamrao Deshmukh regarding PM POSHAN Scheme.

Number of children enrolled under PM POSHAN Scheme year 2024-25

S.No.	State/UT	Number of Beneficiaries Enrolled			
		Bal Vatika	Primary	Up. Primary	Total
1	A & N Islands	5172	13294	10859	29325
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	1516768	1069092	2585860
3	Arunachal Pradesh	11619	85944	53606	151169
4	Assam	225068	2424739	1269560	3919367
5	Bihar	0	11426436	5911869	17338305
6	Chandigarh	14918	44270	40684	99872
7	Chhattisgarh	0	1780359	1121747	2902106
8	Delhi	118430	880193	762292	1760915
9	DNH & DD	7221	40287	27055	74563
10	Goa	2881	92445	67715	163041
11	Gujarat	529306	2746239	1880218	5155763
12	Haryana	63945	847705	639141	1550791
13	Himachal Pradesh	71713	247577	194194	513484
14	Jammu & Kashmir	182596	490147	279365	952108
15	Jharkhand	42164	2644749	1417982	4104895
16	Karnataka	0	2534097	1566937	4101034
17	Kerala	137872	1575615	1130920	2844407
18	Ladakh	4391	9334	4414	18139
19	Lakshadweep	1265	5093	2567	8925
20	Madhya Pradesh	0	3913068	2422860	6335928
21	Maharashtra	0	5974978	3917899	9892877
22	Manipur	25822	125456	37762	189040
23	Meghalaya	137524	385431	181868	704823
24	Mizoram	25071	75137	38631	138839
25	Nagaland	41394	56964	30613	128971
26	Odisha	0	2512932	1742408	4255340
27	Puducherry	7204	27122	20182	54508
28	Punjab	174552	1072279	660578	1907409
29	Rajasthan	46009	3361174	2294665	5701848
30	Sikkim	6200	21102	17440	44742
31	Tamil Nadu	—	2248314	1864599	4112913
32	Telangana	0	1013708	643659	1657367
33	Tripura	11583	215878	141781	369242
34	Uttar Pradesh	0	10577090	5781838	16358928
35	Uttarakhand	0	361891	256529	618420
36	West Bengal	958563	6310427	4071506	11340496
	Total	2852483	67658242	41575035	112085760

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2723 for 17.03.2025 asked by Hon'ble MP Shri Sanjay Uttamrao Deshmukh regarding PM POSHAN Scheme.

	State/UT	Number of Social Audits carried out since inception
1	Andhra Pradesh	1511
2	Arunachal Pradesh	120
3	Assam	3326
4	Bihar	1317
5	Chhattisgarh	36270
6	Gujarat	5601
7	Goa	131
8	Haryana	88
9	Himachal Pradesh	1035
10	Jharkhand	15731
11	Karnataka	2788
12	Kerala	1008
13	Madhya Pradesh	5300
14	Maharashtra	8703
15	Manipur	120
16	Meghalaya	2214
17	Mizoram	610
18	Nagaland	122
19	Odisha	1680
20	Punjab	978
21	Rajasthan	429
22	Sikkim	200
23	Tamil Nadu	953
24	Telangana	1410
25	Tripura	824
26	Uttar Pradesh	3355
27	Uttarakhand	1003
28	West Bengal	11253
29	A&N Islands	1
30	Chandigarh	112
31	D&N H & Daman Diu	611
32	Delhi	170
33	Jammu & Kashmir	36954
34	Ladakh	310
35	Lakshadweep	14
36	Puducherry	228