

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3561
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2025

UPGRADATION OF ANGANWADIS

3561. Shri Kodikunnil Suresh:
Shri Yaduveer Wadiyar:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government for the modernization and upgradation of Anganwadis to ensure improved infrastructure and service delivery in Kerala and Karnataka indicating the amount of funds allocated, released and utilized for the purpose during the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government has initiated any specific schemes to equip Anganwadis with digital learning facilities, child-friendly infrastructure and hygienic amenities, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any plans to enhance the training and capacity- building of Anganwadi workers in Kerala, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the status of implementation of Poshan Abhiyaan in Kerala;
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to address staff shortages and improve the delivery of ICDS services in Mysuru district of Karnataka; and
- (f) whether any initiatives have taken to ensure better nutrition for children and pregnant women in Kodagu's tribal areas, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (b) During the 15th Finance Commission cycle, 2 lakh Anganwadi Centres @ 40,000 AWCs per year are to be upgraded as Saksham Anganwadis for improved nutrition delivery and for early childhood care and development under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0. Saksham Anganwadis are equipped with infrastructure better than the conventional Anganwadi Centres by providing LED screens, water purifier/installation of RO Machine, Poshan Vatika, ECCE and BALA Paintings.

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

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (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 Ministry of Women and Child Development 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.

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.

Details of funds released during last three Financial Years for the purpose of upgradation to Saksham Anganwadi, construction under MGNREGS and for construction of toilet and provision for drinking water are placed at **Annexure**.

(c) MWCD is implementing Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi through the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD). PBPB is a path-breaking national initiative to provide all 14 lakh Anganwadi Workers with a 5 day in person training (3 days in Round 1 and 2 days in Round 2, 2023-26) across all States & UTs including Kerala.

Two important documents launched by MWCD guide this training of PBPB. Navchetana – National Framework for Early Childhood Stimulation, 2024 aims to holistically develop children from birth to three years through 140 age-specific activities in the form of a 36-month stimulation activity calendar. The second document is Aadharshila, the National Curriculum for Early Childhood Care and Education for children aged three to six years which provides over 130 activities that foster child-led and educator-led learning, both indoors and outdoors.

Tier-I: Approximately 40,000 State-Level Master Trainers (SLMTs), including Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs), Supervisors, and additional resource persons, undergo a two-day hybrid training (online and offline) at NIPCCD.

Tier-II: Around 13.1 lakh Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) receive three-day in-person training, structured in two rounds:

Up to 16th March, 2025, 35,968 SLMTs have been trained under Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi programs in 782 Districts of 35 States and 298,847 Anganwadi Workers have been trained in 470 Districts of 31 States. In Kerala, 1494 SLMTs and 10,355 AWWs have been trained as on 16th March, 2025.

Further, State Government of Kerala is giving Job training to AWWs from their own fund. During FY 2024-25, 420 AWWs have been provided with job training.

(d) Poshan Abhiyaan, an overarching scheme for holistic nourishment is flagship scheme launched on 8th March 2018 to improve nutritional outcomes for children,

adolescents, pregnant women and lactating mothers. As on 28.02.2025 the number of beneficiaries in Kerala under the Poshan Abhiyaan is as follows:

Sl. No.	Children (0-6 months)	Children (6 months - 3 Years)	Children (3 - 6 Years)	Pregnant Woman	Lactating Mother	Adolescent Girls	Total Beneficiaries
1	86,693	7,13,605	8,77,109	1,12,454	89,240	17,847	18,96,948

(e)to(f) In the State of Karnataka details of sanctioned posts, in-position and vacancy of AWW and AWH in Mysuru district is as under.

Staff details	Sanctioned Post	In-position	Vacant
AWW	2933	2879	54
AWH	2830	2501	329

The Government of Karnataka has taken several proactive measures to address staff shortages, for example an online portal for the recruitment of AWW and AWH has been developed.

Further, there have been several targeted initiatives in Kodagu's tribal areas to ensure better nutrition for children and pregnant women, as part of efforts to address malnutrition and improve overall health outcomes in these regions. The government of Karnataka, along with various line departments and community-based organizations, has implemented strategies under the Poshan Abhiyaan and other health programs specifically for the tribal population in Kodagu.

- i. Focus on Traditional and Indigenous Food Systems.
- ii. Tribal Health and Nutrition Campaigns
- iii. Mathrupoorna Scheme: Under this scheme, pregnant and lactating women receive 600 kcal and 18-20 grams of protein per meal at a unit cost of Rs. 21/- . Since 2022, beneficiaries from hilly areas, including Kodagu district, have been receiving raw food items as Take-Home Ration (THR).
- iv. Ksheerabhagya Scheme Under this scheme 150 ml of milk is provided to Anganwadi children aged 6 months to 6 years. Severely Acute Malnourished (SAM) and Moderately Acute Malnourished (MAM) children receive an additional 20 grams of milk powder as Take Home Ration three days a week.
- v. Shrusti Scheme: Under this scheme, children aged 3 to 6 years receive eggs three days a week. SAM and MAM children (6 months to 3 years) receive eggs three days a week. SAM and MAM children (3 to 6 years) receive eggs five days a week.

Annexure

Statement referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3561 to be answered on 21.03.2025 regarding “Upgradation of Anganwadis” by Shri Kodikunnil Suresh and Shri Yaduveer Wadiyar.

The details of funds released during last three Financial Years for the purpose of upgradation to Saksham Anganwadi, construction under MGNREGS and for construction of toilet and provision for drinking water:

Rs in Lakhs

Sl. No.	State	FY 2022-23				FY 2023-24				FY 2024-25*			
		Saksham Anganwadi	Construction under MGNREGS	Construction of Toilet	Drinking Water	Saksham Anganwadi	Construction under MGNREGS	Construction of Toilet	Drinking Water	Saksham Anganwadi	Construction under MGNREGS	Construction of Toilet	Drinking Water
1	Karnataka	47.39	960	0	0	106.80	0	0	0	10485.01	1122	310.39	486.34
2	Kerala	116.12	168	0	0	1026	0	2.16	0	0	0	0	0

*As on 12.03.2025.
