

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5620
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.04.2025

STATUS OF WOMEN AND CHILD WELFARE SCHEMES

5620. SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI:

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

- (a) the current status of the implementation of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP), Anganwadi services and Poshan Abhiyan schemes in Punjab;
- (b) the number of women benefitting from women empowerment initiatives including Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and skill development programs in the said State;
- (c) whether there has been a reduction in the number of malnourished children in Punjab, if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to improve nutrition levels;
- (d) the details of financial assistance provided by the Central Government for women and child welfare schemes in said State during the last three years along with the details of its utilization; and
- (e) whether the Government plans to introduce new initiatives for women's safety, helpline services and digital platforms for assistance, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The current status of implementation of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP), Anganwadi services and Poshan Abhiyan schemes in the State of Punjab is at **Annexure-I**.
- (b) The number of women benefitting from women empowerment schemes of the Ministry in the State of Punjab is at **Annexure-II**.
- (c) As may be seen from the status of malnutrition indicators for children (0-5 years) in the State of Punjab from Poshan Tracker given below, there has been reduction in the malnourished children :

Feb-23			Feb-25		
Stunted%	Wasted%	Underweight%	Stunting%	Wasting%	Underweight%
26.05	7.39	12.35	20.67	3.50	6.49

The following steps have been taken to improve nutrition levels:

- 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. It is a Centrally Sponsored mission, where the responsibility for implementation of various activities lies with the States and UTs. This mission is a universal self-selecting umbrella scheme where there are no entry barriers for any beneficiary to register and receive services. This mission is implemented across the country including in the State of Punjab. The objectives of Mission 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

Nutrition goes beyond mere eating of food; it requires proper digestion, absorption, and metabolism of nutrients. This process is influenced by factors like sanitation, education and access to safe drinking water. As malnutrition requires a multi-sectoral approach involving dimensions of food, health, water, sanitation and education, it is crucial to effectively address the issue of malnutrition in a convergent manner. Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 has addressed this by establishing cross cutting convergence amongst 18 Ministries/Departments.

- 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.
- Under this mission, 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 in January 2023. 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 for 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 at least once a week for preparation of Hot Cooked Meal and Take Home ration at Anganwadi centers.
- 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.
- Under this Mission, one of the major activities undertaken is Community Mobilization and Awareness Advocacy to educate people on nutritional aspects as adoption of good nutrition habit requires sustained efforts for behavioural change. State and UTs are conducting and reporting regular sensitisation activities under Jan Andolans 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.

(d) The details of funds released/ utilised under the women and child welfare schemes of the Ministry in the State of Punjab during the last three years are at **Annexure-III**.

(e) For better implementation and efficient monitoring, all schemes implemented by the Ministry for safety, protection and empowerment of women have been clubbed into Mission Shakti. Mission Shakti comprises of two verticals '**Sambal**' and '**Samarthya**' for safety, security and empowerment of women, respectively.

I. Sambal - The following schemes have been included under the Sambal vertical: **One Stop Centres (OSC)** - for providing integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence and those in distress, both in private and public spaces in a convergent and coordinated manner under one roof; **Women Helplines (181-WHL)** is a 24 x 7 x 365 toll-free emergency/non-emergency response system that is integrated with Emergency Response Support System (112) and other existing helplines/institutions; **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)** - launched with an aim to address declining Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) and related issues of empowerment of girls and women over a life cycle continuum; **Nari Adalat** - an initiative aimed at empowering women by ensuring justice and to offer services such as alternate dispute resolution, grievance redressal, counselling, evidence-based decision-making, pressure group tactics, negotiation, mediation, and reconciliation.

II. Samarthya - The following schemes have been included under 'Samarthya' vertical:
Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) - a Centrally Sponsored Maternity Benefit Scheme under which cash incentives flow to the beneficiaries in Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode for the first child and the second girl child; **Ujjwala and Swadhar Greh (renamed as Shakti Sadan)** - an Integrated Relief and Rehabilitation Home for women in distress situations including trafficked women; **Working Women Hostel (renamed as Sakhi Niwas)** - to promote availability of safe and conveniently located accommodation for working women in urban, semi-urban and also in rural areas where employment opportunities for women exist; **National Hub for Empowerment of Women (NHEW)** - to facilitate intersectoral convergence of schemes and programs meant for women at National level, State/ UT level and district level and **National Creche Scheme (renamed as Palna)** that aims to increase the participation of women in work force in the economy by providing quality crèche facility in safe and secure environment for children.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5620 FOR ANSWER ON 04.04.2025 ASKED BY SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI REGARDING 'STATUS OF WOMEN AND CHILD WELFARE SCHEMES'

Current status of implementation of schemes of the Ministry in Punjab

(i) Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

The latest reports of Health Management Information System (HMIS) of Ministry of Health & Family welfare (MoHFW) reveal that Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) has increased from 892 to 924 in the state of Punjab during 2014-15 to 2023-2024.

Further, enrolment of girls in the schools at secondary level has increased from 83.21 percent in 2014-15 to 94.2 percent in 2023-24 for the state of Punjab [as per UDISE-data, MoE].

(ii) Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0

Category	Number of Registered Beneficiaries (as on 28.02.2025)
Pregnant women	74,994
Lactating mothers	95,235
Children (0-6 years)	14,51,616
Adolescent girls	34,055

Annexure-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5620 FOR ANSWER ON 04.04.2025 ASKED BY SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI REGARDING 'STATUS OF WOMEN AND CHILD WELFARE SCHEMES' =

Number of women benefitting from women empowerment schemes of the Ministry in Punjab

S.No	Scheme	Number of Beneficiaries	
1.	Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana	No. of Beneficiaries enrolled during the period from FY 2021-22 to 2024-25	No. of Beneficiaries paid during the period from FY 2021-22 to 2024-25*
		403845	475527

* The number of beneficiaries paid can be higher than number of beneficiaries enrolled during any financial year, as some beneficiaries registered in previous Financial Years have received the payments in the next Financial Year.

Annexure-III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5620 FOR ANSWER ON 04.04.2025 ASKED BY SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI REGARDING 'STATUS OF WOMEN AND CHILD WELFARE SCHEMES'

The details of funds released/ utilised under the schemes of the Ministry in the State of Punjab during the last three years

(Rs. in Crore)

S.No	Mission	Scheme	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
1.	Mission Saksham Anganwadi & POSHAN 2.0	Saksham Anganwadi & POSHAN 2.0	383.52	75.31	307.87
2.	Mission Vatsalya (erstwhile Integrated Child Protection Scheme)		1.72	10.69	15.43
3.	Mission Shakti – Sambal	Beti Bachao Beti Padhao	3.56	0.00	6.67
		One Stop Centre	3.85	0.00	3.89
		Women Help Line	0.00	0.00	0.27
4.	Mission Shakti – Samarthya	Shakti Sadan (erstwhile Swadhar Greh and Ujjawala)	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Sakhi Niwas (erstwhile Working Women Hostel)	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Palna	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana	16.47	18.82	32.05
		National Hub for Empowerment of Women	0.00	1.89	0.00
