

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 804**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2025

**ANGANWADI CENTRES IN RENTED BUILDING**

804. SHRI AMRINDER SINGH RAJA WARRING:  
SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:  
SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

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

- (a) whether about half of the Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) are operated from Government buildings while the rests are operated from rented premises or other spaces;
- (b) if so, the details of the number of AWCs operating in independent Government buildings, rented premises, open space and other spaces;
- (c) the funds allocated and utilized during the last three years for constructing independent building and upgrading existing AWC infrastructure in Bihar during the last three years, indicating the number of buildings constructed along with the status ongoing or upcoming projects;
- (d) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure that all AWCs have adequate and dedicated infrastructure, especially in rural and remote areas;
- (e) whether the Government is aware of specific challenges faced by AWCs in remote and tribal areas, such as accessibility issues, delayed transportation reimbursements for take-home rations and irregular rent grants; and
- (f) if so, the details of these measures and the timeline for their implementation?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) and (b) As per Poshan Tracker data of December 2024, out of 13.96 Lakh Anganwadi centers (AWCs), 10.38 lakh AWCs are operating in Govt owned buildings, Panchayat buildings, co-located in schools or in community buildings etc. Around 3.58 lakh AWCs are operating in rented buildings.

(c) to (f) During the 15<sup>th</sup> 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 imparting early childhood care and development. Saksham

Anganwadis are to be provided with better infrastructure than the conventional Anganwadi Centres which includes internet/Wi-Fi connectivity, LED screens, water purifier/installation of RO, Machine and smart learning equipment. During, last three years, an amount of Rs 16.98 crores has been released to State of Bihar for upgradation of 7116 AWCs into Saksham AWCs.

In order to improve the infrastructure facility of Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), the Ministry has enhanced the provision for construction of drinking water facility at Anganwadi Centre to Rs.17,000/- from Rs 10,000/- earlier and for construction of toilet to Rs.36,000/- from Rs 12,000/- earlier.

Under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, there is a provision of construction of 50000 AWCs buildings 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) have been revised from Rs.7 Lakh per AWC to Rs.12 Lakh per AWC wherein Rs.8.00 Lakh would be provided under MGNREGS, Rs.2.00 Lakh under 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission (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. Further, States/UTs have also been advised to continue to tap funds for construction of AWC buildings from various schemes such as Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), Finance Commission Grants to Panchayati Raj Institutions, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), Multi- Sectoral Development Programme (MSDP) of Ministry of Minority Affairs, etc. During, last three years, an amount of Rs 44.40 crores has been released to State of Bihar for construction 6155 AWCs in convergence with MGNREGS

Directions have been issued to States/UTs to co-locate Anganwadi Centres, which are running on rent without basic facilities, at nearby Primary Schools, wherever space is available.

Further, the Government has also decided to upgrade all Mini AWCs with one worker to full-fledged Anganwadi Centres with one worker and one helper each.

Under Mission Poshan 2.0, Anganwadi workers (AWWs) have been technologically empowered with the provision of smartphones for efficient monitoring and service delivery. The mobile application Poshan Tracker digitizes physical registers used by Anganwadi workers. This improves the quality of their work while simultaneously allowing them real-time monitoring of all activities.

In addition to AWWs, Smartphones are provided to Supervisors and Block Coordinators also. Similarly, data recharge support is provided to AWWs, Supervisors and Block Coordinators.

Regular monitoring of growth parameters is essential for identifying children who may be malnourished and for making timely interventions. Therefore, Anganwadi centres have been equipped with Growth Monitoring devices like infantometer, stadiometer, weighing scale-infant, weighing scale – Mother & Child.

The PM JANMAN Mission launched by Ministry of Tribal Affairs 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 Ministries including Ministry of Women and Child Development. A total of 2500 Anganwadi Centres are to be sanctioned and constructed at Rs 12 lakh per AWC in the three Financial Years i.e., FY 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26.

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.

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