

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 925**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2025

**PALNA SCHEME**

925#. SHRI CHINTAMANI MAHARAJ:

DR. BHOLA SINGH:  
SHRI ARUN GOVIL:  
SMT. KAMLESH JANGDE:  
SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:  
DR. HEMANT VISHNU SAVARA:  
SMT. SANDHYA RAY:  
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:  
SHRI JASWANTSINH SUMANBHAI BHABHOR:  
SHRI CAPTAIN BRIJESH CHOWTA:  
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:  
SHRI DINESHBHAI MAKWANA:  
SHRI LUMBARAM CHOUDHARY:  
SMT. MALA RAJYA LAXMI SHAH:  
SMT. KAMALJEET SEHRAWAT:  
SHRI JANARDAN MISHRA:  
SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:  
SHRI SURESH KUMAR KASHYAP:  
SHRI RAJKUMAR CHAHAR:  
DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:

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

- (a) the manner in which the Palna Scheme contributes to child welfare, early childhood development, and support for working mothers;
- (b) the impact of the said scheme in improving women's workforce participation, particularly in semi-urban, rural areas and tribal areas of the country;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to establish new Anganwadi-cum-Crèches under the said scheme in the next financial year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise; and
- (e) the current status of implementation of the scheme in the country, State and district-wise?

## ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Ministry of women and Child Development has introduced Palna Scheme under the Samarthya Vertical of Umbrella Mission Shakti for all States and UTs w.e.f. 01 April 2022, to provide day care facilities and protection to children.

Government's sustained initiatives on education, skilling and employment of women have resulted in increased opportunities for their employment, and more and more women are now in gainful employment, working within or outside their homes. Lack of proper day-care services is, often, a deterrent for women to go out and work. Hence, there is an urgent need for improved quality and reach of day care services/crèches for working women amongst all socio-economic groups both in the organized and unorganized sectors.

To address these difficulties faced by the working mothers in giving due child care and protection to their children, day-care crèche facilities are being provided through Palna Scheme. Crèche services formalise the child care responsibilities hitherto considered as part of domestic work. Formalization of care work supports the "decent work campaign" to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal 8 – Decent work and economic growth. This will also enable more mothers, who will be free from unpaid child-care responsibilities, to take up gainful employment.

Anganwadi centres are the world's largest childcare institutions dedicated to providing essential care and support to children ensuring delivery of care facilities till the last mile. In a first of its kind approach, Ministry has extended the services of childcare through Anganwadi cum Crèche (AWCC). This will ensure whole day childcare support ensuring their well-being in a safe and secure environment. Anganwadi cum Crèche initiative aims to increase 'women work force participation' in the economy. The objective of *Palna* Scheme is to provide quality crèche facility in safe and secure environment for children (from ages 6 months – 6 years), nutritional support, health and cognitive development of children, growth monitoring & immunization. Crèche facilities under Palna are provided to all mothers, irrespective of their employment status.

Programme Approval Board(PAB) meetings, are held with the State Governments and UT Administrations annually where it is emphasised that they may send proposal for opening more Aganwadi-cum-Creches and operationalize them.

During the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Cycle i.e. up to FY 2025-26 a total of 17,000 Aganwadi-cum-Creches (AWCCs) have been envisioned for establishment under the Palna Scheme. Proposals for establishment of AWCCs are received from the respective State Governments/UT Administrations who also contribute their corresponding share for the

implementation of the Scheme. Till date, a total of 14,599 AWCCs have been approved by the Ministry as per proposals received from various States/UTs. The State/UT-wise approved Aganwadi-cum-Creches(AWCCs) is at **Annexure**.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 925 FOR ANSWER ON 25.07.2025 REGARDING “PALNA SCHEME”****State/UT-wise details of approved Aganwadi-cum-Creches (AWCCs)**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Approved AWCCs</b>
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8
2	Andhra Pradesh	108
3	Arunachal Pradesh	86
4	Assam	500
5	Bihar	504
6	Chandigarh	210
7	Chhattisgarh	1500
8	Delhi	502
9	Goa	11
10	Gujarat	25
11	Haryana	628
12	Himachal Pradesh	152
13	Jammu and Kashmir	317
14	Jharkhand	1024
15	Kerala	504
16	Ladakh	7
17	Lakshadweep	8
18	Madhya Pradesh	448
19	Manipur	702
20	Meghalaya	1238
21	Mizoram	200
22	Nagaland	500
23	Odisha	1000
24	Puducherry	86
25	Punjab	148
26	Sikkim	25
27	Tamil Nadu	600
28	Telangana	1033
29	Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	190
30	Tripura	114

31	Uttarakhand	202
32	Karnataka	1664
33	Maharashtra	345
34	West Bengal	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>14599</b>