

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION. 4672
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2026

SCHEMES TO TACKLE MALNUTRITION

4672. DR. M K VISHNU PRASAD:

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

- (a) the details of the schemes/programmes being implemented to tackle malnutrition among women and children in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the details of the budget allocation made for the said programmes during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise including in the said State;
- (c) the details of the malnutrition rate in the said State during the said period; and
- (d) the details of the concrete measures being taken by the Government to tackle malnutrition in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0) is the ongoing scheme under the Ministry of Women and Child Development to strengthen Nutrition and address the challenge of malnutrition in the country.

Under this Mission, Anganwadi services, Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent girls have been subsumed. It is a Centrally Sponsored scheme where the responsibility for implementation of various activities lies with the States and UTs. This Mission includes beneficiaries; Children under 6 years of age, pregnant women, lactating mothers and adolescent girls (age 14-18 years in Aspirational Districts and North-Eastern region) in the country including the state of Tamil Nadu. The status of nutritional indicators in the State of Tamil Nadu is available at the link: <https://www.poshantracker.in/statistics>

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, behavioural change and advocacy. It focuses on Maternal Nutrition, Infant and Young Child Feeding practices, treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)/ Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and wellness through AYUSH practices to reduce prevalence of wasting, stunting, anaemia and underweight.

Further, Supplementary Nutrition is provided to Children (6 months to 6 years), Pregnant Women, Lactating Mothers and Adolescent Girls in accordance with the nutrition norms contained in Schedule-II of the National Food Security Act, 2013. 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 (Calcium, Zinc, Iron, Dietary Folate, Vitamin A, Vitamin-B6 and Vitamin B-12). Extra Supplementary Nutrition is provided to Severely Acutely Malnourished (SAM) children as per NFSA.

Also, Ministry of Women & Child Development and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare have jointly released the Protocol for Management of Malnutrition in Children to prevent and treat severely acute malnutrition in children and for reducing associated morbidity and mortality. The community-based approach involves timely detection and screening of children with severe acute malnutrition in the community, management for those without medical complications with wholesome, local nutritious foods at home and supportive medical care. The protocol includes an appetite test and screening process for children aged 6 months to 6 years who are severely acute malnourished (SAM) or severely underweight (SUW). Post-screening, such children are referred to Nutrition Rehabilitation Centers (NRC) or hospital facilities for further care.

To encourage diet-diversity and consumption of wholesome local produce, Poshan Vatikas have been developed at AWCs. Poshan Vatikas help to meet the important dietary diversity gap by providing different fruits, nuts, herbs, medicinal plants and vegetables round the year.

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 Maah and Poshan Pakhwada 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. A total of 9.8 crore CBEs have been conducted from 2018 to February 2026 and more than 150 crore Jan Andolan activities have been conducted since 2018 through 15 Jan Andolans.

The details of the budget allocation made for the said programme during the last three years and the current year, State and UT-wise are placed in the **Annexure**.

Annexure

(Rupee in crores)

S. No.	State and UT	Funds released (2022-23)	Funds released (2023-24)	Funds released (2024-25)	Funds released (2025-26) as on date 17.03.2026
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3.85	12.15	9.63	8.10
2	Andhra Pradesh	827.79	705.68	645.73	522.97
3	Arunachal Pradesh	137.78	162.06	102.61	109.67
4	Assam	1651.63	2233.31	2482.34	1025.07
5	Bihar	1740.09	1859.29	2262.92	878.72
6	Chandigarh	33.10	19.79	14.56	9.87
7	Chhattisgarh	668.96	579.46	733.30	392.39
8	DNH & DD	5.80	11.97	9.13	144.61
9	Delhi	182.77	161.81	160.41	5.92
10	Goa	14.71	13.95	13.44	12.62
11	Gujarat	912.64	1126.80	601.32	337.53
12	Haryana	195.25	225.78	232.69	43.38
13	Himachal Pradesh	270.24	301.09	313.07	257.02
14	Jammu & Kashmir	479.01	530.88	662.79	282.87
15	Jharkhand	430.91	664.30	496.95	386.01
16	Karnataka	765.87	912.96	886.85	620.40
17	Kerala	444.98	306.64	435.74	176.06
18	Ladakh	18.79	19.62	18.89	16.41
19	Lakshadweep	0.44	2.88	1.35	0.82
20	Madhya Pradesh	1011.57	1123.11	1144.54	791.73
21	Maharashtra	1646.17	1699.52	1368.84	1060.79
22	Manipur	135.95	201.28	342.87	133.15
23	Meghalaya	192.39	269.69	137.93	81.40
24	Mizoram	42.81	100.27	55.29	47.93
25	Nagaland	199.30	262.91	147.01	88.88
26	Odisha	923.92	968.80	948.16	789.82
27	Puducherry	0.12	4.48	3.68	3.90
28	Punjab	75.31	307.87	265.48	133.15
29	Rajasthan	974.02	1091.96	741.85	722.33
30	Sikkim	20.33	33.49	18.07	9.00
31	Tamil Nadu	766.81	880.79	638.47	508.87
32	Telangana	550.69	507.87	430.76	117.70
33	Tripura	150.52	244.22	153.41	133.75
34	Uttar Pradesh	2721.87	2668.69	2694.62	1944.79
35	Uttarakhand	425.84	288.24	216.33	223.30
36	West Bengal	1227.59	1237.56	1513.80	1029.28
