

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 4787
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2026

BASIC FACILITIES AT AWCS

4787. SMT. PRATIMA MONDAL:

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

- (a) the total number of Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) which are functioning without basic facilities such as pucca buildings, drinking water and toilets; and
- (b) the reason as to why the institutional childcare coverage remained limited, particularly for women working-class in informal-sector?

ANSWER

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

(a) The State and UT wise details of Anganwadi Centres including availability of drinking water and toilet facilities are available at the link: <https://www.poshantracker.in/statistics>.

(b) 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.

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). Anganwadi cum Crèche initiative aims to increase 'women work force participation' in the economy. The objective of the 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.

Palna scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Programme Approval Board (PAB) meetings are held with the State Governments and UT Administrations annually wherein States and UTs submit proposals for opening Anganwadi-cum-Creches and operationalize them. State Governments and UT Administrations also contribute their corresponding share for the implementation of the Scheme.

During the 15th Finance Cycle i.e. up to FY 2025-26 a total of 17,000 Anganwadi-cum-Creches (AWCCs) are to be established under the Palna Scheme. Till date, a total of 14,708 AWCCs have been approved by the Ministry across 34 States/UTs as per the proposals received from States and UTs.
