

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4795**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2026

**PREVALENCE OF MALNUTRITION AND ANAEMIA IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

4795. DR C M RAMESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the prevalence of malnutrition and anaemia among women and children in Andhra Pradesh, particularly in Anakapalli district, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of children (0-5 years) suffering from stunting, wasting, underweight and anaemia and women (including pregnant and lactating mothers and adolescent girls) suffering from anaemia in the said State during the last three years, district-wise;
- (c) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised under ICDS/Anganwadi Services and POSHAN Abhiyaan in the said State, particularly for the said district, during the last three years;
- (d) whether there are vacancies of Anganwadi Workers, Supervisors and nutrition supply gaps in the said district, if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to fill such vacancies and strengthen nutrition delivery; and
- (e) the measures taken to reduce anaemia among adolescent girls and pregnant women in the said district?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d): Under the Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, 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, with special provisions for undernourished children.

For monitoring and tracking of all activities in the AWCs, Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and beneficiaries on defined indicators, the Ministry has launched 'Poshan Tracker' digital application. It has facilitated near real time data collection for Anganwadi Services. The application has enabled the Ministry and States & UTs to review the implementation of the scheme on various parameters including health and nutrition status of the children and to make course corrections. The district wise information on malnutrition among children (0-5 years) in the Andhra Pradesh is available on the Poshan Tracker public dashboard at the given link: <https://www.poshantracker.in/statistics>.

Primarily, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare keeps record of data of Children and women (including pregnant and lactating mothers and adolescent girls) suffering from anaemia. The per National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5 data of the number of children (0-5 years) and women (including pregnant and lactating mothers and adolescent girls) suffering from anemia in Andhra Pradesh and district-wise is placed in the Annexure.

Details of funds released under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 to the State of Andhra Pradesh and the district of Anakapalli during the last three years are as below:

(Rupees in crores)

	2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
	Fund released	Fund Utilised	Fund released	Fund Utilised	Fund released	Fund Utilised
Andhra Pradesh	827.79	721.45	705.68	734.52	645.73	-
Anakapalli	0.88	0.50	0.98	1.03	1.27	0.87

Details of vacancies of Anganwadi Workers and Supervisors in the Anakapalli district of Andhra Pradesh are as below:

S. No	Category	Sanctioned	Filled	Vacant
1	Anganwadi Workers	1841	1818	23
2	Supervisors Gr-1	44	36	8
3	Supervisors Gr-2	32	16 (1 Contract employee)	16

The matter regarding filling up of vacant posts at various levels is regularly taken up by the Ministry of Women and Child Development with the States and UTs through sustained engagements and video conferences to ensure uninterrupted delivery of services to the beneficiaries. The Government of Andhra Pradesh is actively working to fill the vacant positions.

A survey on Poshan Abhiyaan was conducted by the World Bank in 2021 in 11 priority States (including Andhra Pradesh) which bore the highest burden of stunting among children and anemia among women. The survey showed positive results, both in the delivery of services and nutrition practices including consumption of iron and folic acid supplements (IFA) by 56-67% of beneficiaries for at least 100 days.

Further, a third-party evaluation and impact assessment of Poshan Abhiyaan was conducted by NITI Aayog in 2020 and also in 2025 for Mission Poshan 2.0. These assessments have found its relevance to be satisfactory for tackling malnutrition in the country. NITI Aayog has also got conducted outcome-based evaluation of Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 during the period 2019–20 to 2023–24 in 12 selected States (including Andhra Pradesh) and one UT of Chandigarh. Evidence from institutional assessments and household surveys indicated that in its current form, Mission Poshan 2.0 represents the Government's latest effort to holistically combat malnutrition and promote child development, by building on past programs with a converged and strengthened approach. Further, on the micronutrient front, the prevalence of anaemia among children aged 6–59 months declined by 8.5 percentage points, and among pregnant women by 1.8 percentage points, reflecting the potential impact of iron-

folic acid supplementation, fortified foods, and improved outreach under SNP and related interventions. States such as Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have made considerable progress in adopting digital tools for THR distribution, attendance monitoring, and supervisory oversight, thereby enhancing fund utilization and ensuring timely service delivery

(e): Ministry of Health and Family Welfare implements Anemia Mukht Bharat (AMB) strategy to reduce prevalence of anemia among six beneficiaries age groups - children (6-59 months), children (5-9 years), adolescents (10-19 years), pregnant and lactating women and women of reproductive age group (15-49 years) in a life cycle approach through implementation of six interventions via robust institutional mechanism. These six interventions include Prophylactic iron and Folic Acid supplementation (IFA Syrup provided biweekly to Children 6-59 months, IFA Pink tablets provided to Children 5-9 years, IFA Blue tablets provided to Adolescent 10-19 years, IFA Red tablets provided weekly to Women of Reproductive age group and IFA Red tablets daily for 180 days provided to pregnant women and lactating mothers), Deworming (Pregnant women provided albendazole tablet in second trimester and all children provided albendazole tablets during National Deworming Day), intensified Behavioural Change Communication campaign, Testing for anemia and treatment as per anemia management protocols, Mandatory provision of IFA fortified food in public health programmes and addressing non nutritional causes of anemia especially malaria, fluorosis and hemoglobinopathies.

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**Annexure**

**DISTRICT-WISE DATA ON ANEMIA IN THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, AS PER NATIONAL FAMILY HEALTH SURVEY-5 (2019-2021)**

Name of the District	Children age 6-59 months who are anaemic (<11.0 g/dl) (%)	Pregnant Women who are anaemic (<11.0 g/dl) (%)	All women age 15-49 years who are anaemic (%)	All women age 15- 19 years who are anaemic (%)
Srikakulam	59.6	-	62.6	59.2
Vizianagaram	66.7	-	64.0	73.9
Visakhapatnam	72.6	-	58.0	58.9
East Godavari	66.8	-	63.0	65.2
West Godavari	62.3	-	63.0	66.8
Krishna	65.7	-	60.3	59.0
Guntur	59.3	51.9	59.5	54.6
Prakasam	62.6	-	60.4	64.8
Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore	67.5	-	59.4	68.6
Y.S.R.	60.6	57.6	56.1	60.2
Kumool	70.8	67.8	58.6	61.1
Anantapur	55.8	54.9	50.5	50.0
Chittoor	54.9	52.7	51.8	43.9

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