

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1018
ANSWERED ON 24.07.2026

HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

1018. ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the challenges related to the safety of women and children, malnutrition and child protection, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the funds allocated/expenditure incurred along with the number of beneficiaries covered under Mission Shakti, Mission Vatsalya and Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) the details of the progress made so far in the modernization of Anganwadi centres, strengthening of nutritional services and implementation of a digital monitoring system in the country; and
- (d) the details of the time-bound action plan of the Government to ensure the safety, nutrition and holistic development of women and children?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) Various schemes implemented by the Ministry of Women & Child Development for safety, nutrition and holistic development of women and children all over the country have been reviewed and clubbed into three Umbrella Missions, viz. (1) Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0 for improving nutrition & health indicators (2) Mission Shakti, for safety, protection and empowerment of women; and (3) Mission Vatsalya, for protection, care and welfare of children in difficult circumstances. Details of the schemes are as under:

(i) Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0): In the 15th Finance Commission, components of nutritional support for children below the age of 6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers, Adolescent Girls (14 – 18 years); Early Childhood Care and Education [3-6

years]; Anganwadi infrastructure including modern, upgraded Saksham Anganwadi, Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent Girls have been reorganised under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0).

Under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, a package of six services are provided to the eligible beneficiaries i.e Supplementary Nutrition (SNP), Pre-school Non-Formal Education, Nutrition & Health Education, Immunization, Health Check-up, and Referral Services. Three of the six services, viz., Immunization, Health check-up and Referral Services are related to health and are provided through National Health Mission (NHM) & Public Health Infrastructure. Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 is a Centrally Sponsored scheme. Central Government is responsible for the overall planning and policy under the scheme whereas its day-to-day implementation falls under the ambit of State Government or UT administration.

Further, Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) was revised from 01.04.2022 onwards and was subsumed under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0. The Scheme aims at providing nutritional support to Adolescent Girls (AGs) [14-18 years] for improving their health and nutritional status under the nutrition component and providing them IFA supplementation, Health check-up and Referral Service, Nutrition & Health Education and Skilling etc. under non-nutrition component of the Scheme. The targeted beneficiaries under the Scheme are AGs in the age group of 14 to 18 years in Aspirational Districts and all North Eastern States.

(ii) Mission Shakti: The ‘Mission Shakti’ aims at strengthening interventions for women safety, security and empowerment. It seeks to focus on proposing strategies for improving convergence across Ministries/ Departments and at different levels of governance. Mission Shakti comprises of two sub-schemes ‘Sambal’ and ‘Samarthya’ for safety and security of women and empowerment of women respectively.

The “Sambal” sub-scheme is for safety and security of women. It has the components of One Stop Centres (OSCs), Women Helpline (WHL), Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) and Nari Adalat.

- **One Stop Centres (OSCs)-** One Stop Centre (OSC) provides integrated and immediate support and assistance under one roof to women affected by violence and those in distress, both in private and public spaces all across the country. It provides services like medical aid, legal aid and advice, temporary shelter, police assistance and psycho-social counselling to needy women.
- **Women Helpline (WHL)-** Women Helpline (WHL-181) provides 24-hour toll-free telecommunication services to support women in both emergency and non-emergency situations. It offers assistance to women affected by violence and provides information about government schemes and services all across the country.
- **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)-** Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme was launched on 22nd January 2015 to help address Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of empowerment of girls and women over a life cycle continuum. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme has transformed from policy initiative into national movement by mobilizing various stakeholders, including government agencies, media civil society and general public.

- **Nari Adalat-** Nari Adalat scheme provides a platform for alternative grievance redressal for women at the gram panchayat level. The Adalats are mandated to help women in distress at the panchayat level in resolving smaller issues relating to domestic violence, and other gender-based violence by negotiation, mediation, and reconciliation with mutual consent for accessible justice.

The “Samarthya” sub scheme is for empowerment of women. It has the components of Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), Shakti Sadan, Sakhi Niwas, Palna and SANKALP: Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW).

- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)-** The PMMVY is a Centrally Sponsored Maternity Benefit Scheme under which cash incentives of ₹5,000/- is provided directly to the Bank/Post Office account of the beneficiary in Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode for first child. The eligible beneficiaries receive the remaining cash incentive, as per approved norms towards maternity benefit under Janani Suraksha Yojana after institutional delivery, so that on an average a woman gets ₹6,000/-. Cash incentive of ₹6,000/- is also provided under PMMVY to eligible beneficiaries for second child subject to the second child being a girl.
- **Shakti Sadan-** Under the overarching ‘Mission Shakti’, erstwhile schemes of ‘Swadhar Greh’ for women in difficult circumstances and ‘Ujjawala Home’ for Prevention of Trafficking, have been merged w. e. f. 01.04.2022 and known as ‘Shakti Sadan Scheme’, which is an Integrated Relief and Rehabilitation Home-for women in distressful situations including trafficked women. It aims at creating a safe and enabling environment for the women in such difficult situations, to enable them to overcome the adverse circumstances.
- **Sakhi Niwas-** The Sakhi Niwas Scheme (Working Women Hostel) is a demand driven centrally sponsored scheme, under which funds are released directly to the States/UTs for implementation of the scheme and aims to promote availability of safe and conveniently located accommodation for working women in urban, semi-urban and even rural areas where employment opportunity for women exist.
- **Palna-** Palna Scheme is implemented with the aim of expanding the outreach of crèches to ensure that women everywhere have the opportunity to work and do not drop out from workforce because of care responsibilities. Palna aims to provide day-care crèche facilities to the children (06 months – 06 years).
- **SANKALP: Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW) -** The SANKALP: HEW (Hub for Empowerment of Women) which functions as a Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) for all components of Mission Shakti. It serves as a single window system to bridge the information and knowledge gap regarding schemes and facilities available for women as well as guide them to avail the benefits and entitlements.

(iii) Mission Vatsalya: Mission Vatsalya (erstwhile Child Protection Services Scheme (ICPS)) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) which is implemented through States/Union Territories (UTs) to deliver services for better outreach and protection for Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) and Children in Conflict with Law (CCL) which include Institutional Care and Non-Institutional Care in a mission mode with the objective to: (i) Support and sustain Children

in difficult circumstances (ii) Develop context-based solutions for holistic development of children from varied backgrounds (iii) Provide scope for green field projects for encouraging innovative solutions (iv) Cement convergent action by gap funding, if required.

The scheme also provides for emergency outreach services (24x7) for children in difficult circumstances through Child Helpline (1098).

The State-wise and year-wise details of the funds released under the schemes of the Ministry during the last three years are annexed at **Annexure-I**.

The details of beneficiaries covered under the schemes of the Ministry are annexed at **Annexure-II**.

Under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, 2 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) are envisaged to be upgraded as Saksham Anganwadis at the rate of 40,000 AWCs per year to strengthen nutrition service delivery and promote Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). Saksham Anganwadis are equipped with enhanced infrastructure compared to conventional AWCs, including facilities such as LED screens, water purifiers/RO machines, Poshan Vatikas, ECCE kits, and BALA (Building as Learning Aid) paintings. As on date, a total of 2 lakh AWCs have been sanctioned for upgradation to 34 States/UTs out of which 1,23,532 Anganwadi Centres have been upgraded as Saksham Anganwadis with the provision of three approved components, including LED screens as one of the key components. The details of the state-wise AWCs approved for upgradation into Saksham Anganwadis as on 16th July 2026 are annexed at **Annexure-III**.

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 National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA).

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 that has been repeatedly revealed in different surveys by providing different fruits, nuts, herbs, medicinal plants and vegetables round the year. The main objective of introducing the concept of Poshan Vatika is to encourage community members to cultivate local food crops in their backyards.

Further, 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 said 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.

Under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, 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 behavioral change. State and UTs are conducting and reporting regular sensitization 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 10.8 crore CBEs have been conducted from 2018 to June 2026 and more than 150 crore Jan Andolan activities have been conducted since 2018 through 15 Jan Andolans.

The 'Poshan Tracker' application was rolled out as an important governance tool. The Poshan Tracker facilitates monitoring and tracking of all AWCs, AWWs and beneficiaries on defined indicators. Technology under Poshan Tracker is being leveraged for dynamic identification of stunting, wasting, underweight prevalence among children. It has facilitated near real time data collection for Anganwadi Services such as, opening of AWCs, daily attendance of children, ECCE activities, Growth Monitoring of children, Provision of Hot Cooked Meal (HCM)/Take Home Ration (THR-not raw ration), Growth Measurement etc. For last mile tracking of Service Delivery, Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) has developed Facial Recognition System (FRS) in Poshan Tracker Application for distribution of Take-Home Ration to ensure that benefit is given only to the intended beneficiary registered in Poshan Tracker. The Nominee Module has been introduced in Poshan Tracker to ensure uninterrupted delivery of Take-Home Ration (THR) to the beneficiaries; Pregnant Women, Lactating Mothers, and Adolescent Girls. If due to any reason, the registered beneficiary is unable to visit the Anganwadi Centre to receive their THR through FRS, she can nominate a nominee on her behalf to receive her THR.

Annexure-I**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PARTS (A) TO (D) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1018 FOR 24.07.2026 BY ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR REGARDING 'HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN'**

State-wise and year-wise details of the funds released under the schemes of the Ministry during the last three years

I. Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0**(Rs in crores)**

S.No.	State/UT	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	12.15	9.63	8.1
2	Andhra Pradesh	705.68	645.73	759.76
3	Arunachal Pradesh	162.06	102.61	118.5
4	Assam	2233.31	2482.34	1548.67
5	Bihar	1859.29	2262.92	905.43
6	Chandigarh	19.79	14.56	9.87
7	Chattisgarh	579.46	733.3	518.22
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	11.97	9.13	5.92
9	Delhi	161.81	160.41	150.21
10	Goa	13.95	13.44	19.74
11	Gujarat	1126.8	601.32	699.13
12	Haryana	225.78	232.69	67.12
13	Himachal Pradesh	301.09	313.07	328.59
14	Jammu & Kashmir	530.88	662.79	401.62
15	Jharkhand	664.3	496.95	429.26
16	Karnataka	912.96	886.85	863.64
17	Kerala	306.64	435.74	283.81
18	Ladakh	19.62	18.89	16.41
19	Lakshadweep	2.88	1.35	0.82
20	Madhya Pradesh	1123.11	1144.54	937.45

21	Maharashtra	1699.52	1368.84	1405.45
22	Manipur	201.28	342.87	199.99
23	Meghalaya	269.69	137.93	182.04
24	Mizoram	100.27	55.29	52.69
25	Nagaland	262.91	147.01	146.29
26	Odisha	968.8	948.16	911.27
27	Puducherry	4.48	3.68	4.02
28	Punjab	307.87	265.48	190.73
29	Rajasthan	1091.96	741.85	843.51
30	Sikkim	33.49	18.07	18.21
31	TamilNadu	880.79	638.47	636.6
32	Telangana	507.87	430.76	209.2
33	Tripura	244.22	153.41	154.73
34	Uttar Pradesh	2668.69	2694.62	2145.42
35	Uttarakhand	288.24	216.33	271.05
36	West Bengal	1237.56	1513.8	1333.9

II. Mission Vatsalya

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Name of the State	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1	Andhra Pradesh	25.01	44.03	38.72
2	Arunachal Pradesh	24.35	5.32	7.74
3	Assam	59.66	31.39	29.61
4	Bihar	65.18	53.35	51.95
5	Chhattisgarh	44.66	39.10	28.79
6	Goa	0.00	5.14	3.07
7	Gujarat	47.10	19.50	2.49
8	Haryana	16.17	6.40	7.85
9	Himachal Pradesh	21.15	37.68	22.56
10	Jammu & Kashmir	43.64	44.75	33.79
11	Jharkhand	37.66	18.73	31.64
12	Karnataka	90.94	86.48	45.48
13	Kerala	22.27	12.03	13.80
14	Madhya Pradesh	60.85	117.24	61.82
15	Maharashtra	95.38	144.97	78.90
16	Manipur	29.24	68.15	34.36
17	Meghalaya	31.28	22.30	42.75
18	Mizoram	53.09	37.06	33.65
19	Nagaland	29.28	33.92	25.66
20	Orissa	60.28	68.83	51.92
21	Punjab	15.44	14.76	13.94
22	Rajasthan	42.84	74.98	30.43
23	Sikkim	5.80	16.21	8.51
24	Tamil Nadu	128.70	122.82	89.14
25	Telangana	39.98	36.97	27.26
26	Tripura	32.09	19.23	18.11
27	Uttar Pradesh	103.57	92.05	107.15
28	Uttarakhand	32.63	14.49	20.14
29	West Bengal	57.42	70.18	47.50
30	Andaman & Nicobar Island	2.68	3.13	3.60
31	Chandigarh	5.83	7.63	4.90
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	3.19	9.91	2.89
33	Delhi	3.89	7.62	6.63
34	Lakshadweep	0.36	0.00	0.09
35	Ladakh	4.39	3.81	3.20
36	Puducherry	5.67	4.17	3.21

III. Mission Shakti

(Rs. in crores)

SL	State/UT	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1	A&N Islands	3.04	0.88	1.70
2	Andhra Pradesh	76.56	50.50	47.73
3	Arunachal Pradesh	9.03	12.17	11.11
4	Assam	204.96	98.64	39.07
5	Bihar	1.58	151.29	218.22
6	Chandigarh	5.32	4.96	6.16
7	Chhattisgarh	30.40	79.56	94.72
8	DNHDD	2.31	5.26	2.64
9	Delhi	31.45	25.80	8.77
10	Goa	0.94	2.68	2.06
11	Gujarat	97.94	82.39	72.30
12	Haryana	11.71	38.78	33.52
13	Himachal Pradesh	19.85	31.98	27.30
14	Jammu and Kashmir	58.40	58.88	34.27
15	Jharkhand	13.66	39.51	56.77
16	Karnataka	144.85	174.93	85.62
17	Kerala	69.17	11.15	77.66
18	Ladakh-UT	1.87	1.93	2.28
19	Lakshadweep	0.69	0.27	0.50
20	Madhya Pradesh	136.15	279.83	131.73
21	Maharashtra	30.32	154.62	160.88
22	Manipur	40.65	26.23	27.84
23	Meghalaya	7.58	10.25	21.91
24	Mizoram	14.44	19.59	22.55
25	Nagaland	18.63	26.56	12.10
26	Odisha	13.85	57.10	40.84
27	Puducherry	1.37	2.30	3.10
28	Punjab	42.89	38.05	38.43
29	Rajasthan	144.17	106.43	115.84
30	Sikkim	5.14	2.90	5.82
31	Tamil Nadu	44.48	124.85	159.36
32	Telangana	22.12	16.04	26.31
33	Tripura	14.53	13.59	16.51
34	Uttar Pradesh	40.02	34.81	34.39
35	Uttarakhand	41.80	28.07	49.11
36	West Bengal	7.20	6.42	7.92

Annexure-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PARTS (A) TO (D) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1018 FOR 24.07.2026 BY ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR REGARDING 'HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN'

Details of beneficiaries covered under the schemes of the Ministry

Mission	Scheme	Category	Number of Beneficiaries
Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0 (as on 30.06.2026)		Pregnant Women	61,98,879
		Lactating Mothers	45,64,413
		Children (0-6 years)	7,72,54,990
		Adolescent Girls	15,81,540
Mission Vatsalya (FY 2025-26)		Beneficiaries under Institutional Care	80,511
		Beneficiaries under Non-Institutional care	1,70,598
Mission Shakti	One Stop Centre (as on 30.06.2026)	Women assisted	15,80,000
	Women Helpline (as on 30.06.2026)	Women assisted	1,04,00,000
	Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (as on 20.07.2026)	Beneficiaries paid	4,54,00,000
	Shakti Sadan (FY 2025-26)	Beneficiaries in Shakti Sadan	42,822
	Sakhi Niwas (FY 2025-26)	Beneficiaries in Sakhi Niwas	56,815
	Palna (as on 20.07.2026)	Beneficiaries in Creches	43,000
	SANKALP: HEW (as on 15.07.2026)	Women Beneficiaries	2,78,620

Annexure-III**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PARTS (A) TO (D) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1018 FOR 24.07.2026 BY ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR REGARDING 'HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN****State-wise details of AWCs approved for upgradation into Saksham Anganwadis (as on 16th July 2026)**

State and UT	Sanctioned during FY 2022-23	Sanctioned during FY 2023-24	Sanctioned during FY 2024-25	Total sanctioned
Andaman & Nicobar	0	86	54	140
Andhra Pradesh	1,105	1,763	7,090	9,958
Arunachal Pradesh	100	0	52	152
Assam	3,963	815	629	5,407
Bihar	3,566	3,550	4,413	11,529
Chandigarh	0	0	69	69
Chhattisgarh	4,750	1,740	5,000	11,490
Goa	0	24	0	24
Gujarat	1,250	0	11,897	13,147
Haryana	10	0	2,794	2,804
Himachal Pradesh	100	25	905	1,030
Jammu & Kashmir	86	50	202	338
Jharkhand	6,850	0	9,925	16,775
Karnataka	100	178	17,454	17,732
Kerala	250	1,710	2,192	4,152
Ladakh	0	0	14	14
Lakshadweep	0	0	18	18
Madhya Pradesh	2,220	9,486	12,956	24,662
Maharashtra	1,150	589	13,006	14,745
Manipur	30	0	0	30
Meghalaya	100	8	13	121
Mizoram	100	988	512	1,600
Nagaland	100	49	0	149
Odisha	6,000	1,084	5,056	12,140
Puducherry	0	65	70	135

Punjab	100	0	253	353
Rajasthan	213	340	2,961	3,514
Sikkim	100	335	0	435
Tamil Nadu	800	5,590	5,582	11,972
Telangana	500	3,529	979	5,008
Tripura	200	245	29	474
Uttar Pradesh	2,349	17,845	3,503	23,697
Uttarakhand	350	213	264	827
West Bengal	4,750	609	0	5,359
Total	41192	50916	107892	200000
