

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1114
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2026

Skill Development through Anganwadi

+ 1114 SHRI GYANESHWAR PATIL:

SMT. DELKAR KALABEN MOHANBHAI:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen nutrition, health monitoring, and Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) under Mission POSHAN-2.0 and Saksham Anganwadi; State-wise including Madhya Pradesh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli;
- (b) the details of the modernization (digital monitoring and smart infrastructure) of Anganwadi centres carried out by the Government in the State of Madhya Pradesh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli during the last three years and till date;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch skill development and entrepreneurship programmes for women through Anganwadis and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in Madhya Pradesh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time-frame by which the Government proposes to implement the same?

ANSWER

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

(a): The Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 provides the following package of services in an integrated manner to eligible beneficiaries through a network of around 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) spread all over the country:

- i. Supplementary nutrition.
- ii. Pre-school non-formal education.
- iii. Nutrition and health education.
- iv. Immunization.
- v. Health check-up.
- vi. 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) and Public Health Infrastructure.

Under Mission Poshan 2.0, a new strategy has been adopted for reduction in malnutrition and for improved health, wellness and immunity of children. It includes approaches like community engagement, outreach, behavioural change and advocacy. It focuses on Maternal Nutrition, Infant and Young Child Feeding Norms, treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)/ Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and wellness through AYUSH practices to reduce prevalence of wasting, stunting, anemia and being underweight.

Supplementary Nutrition is provided to Pregnant Women, Lactating Mothers, Children (6 months to 6 years), and Adolescent Girls (in Aspirational Districts and North Eastern Region) in accordance with the nutrition norms contained in Schedule-II of the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013. These norms have been revised in January 2023. Revised norms are more comprehensive and balanced in terms of both quantity and quality of supplementary nutrition. It is 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 SAM children.

For improving the quality of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) delivered through Anganwadi system, Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi (PBPB) initiative was launched in May 2023 under the Mission. PBPB aims at equipping AWCs with high-quality infrastructure, play equipment, and well-trained Anganwadi Workers (AWWs). Around 11.44 AWWs have been trained in ECCE pedagogy and delivery of nutritional services in First Round of the training under PBPB. Under PBPB, allocation for Pre-school Education (PSE) Kits has been increased to ₹3,000 per AWC per year for providing adequate PSE kits at the AWCs. In order to improve the quality of ECCE, Navchetana - a National Framework for Early Childhood Stimulation for children up to 3 years of age, and Aadharshila - National Curriculum for ECCE for children of 3 to 6 years of age were launched in March 2024. Navchetana framework empowers caregivers and AWWs for holistic early stimulation of children through responsive caregiving. Aadharshila improves the quality of early childhood education transacted at AWCs by prioritizing play-based activities covering all learning domains.

Government has also approved upgradation of 2,00,000 AWCs to Saksham Anganwadi Centres across the country except Delhi and Dadra and Nagar Haveli for better delivery of nutrition and increased focus on ECCE services to the beneficiaries. In Madhya Pradesh, numbers of AWCs sanctioned for upgradation as Saksham Anganwadis in 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 are as under:

2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
2,220	9,486	12,956

(b): In order to leverage Information Technology to strengthen and bring about transparency in nutrition delivery support systems at the AWCs, Government launched 'Poshan Tracker' e-Governance portal having reach to all AWWs in the country including those of Madhya Pradesh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. Poshan Tracker enables capturing of the real time data of the Mission. All AWWs are provided with smart phones along with Internet connectivity to ensure smooth and uninterrupted data entry. The Poshan Tracker facilitates monitoring and tracking of all AWCs, AWWs and beneficiaries

on defined indicators. Poshan Tracker based applications are being leveraged for dynamic identification of stunting, wasting, under-weight among children.

Provision of Growth Monitoring Devices (GMDs) have also been made at each AWC for the growth monitoring of registered children.

Further, for last mile tracking of delivery of services, Facial Recognition System (FRS) has been developed using Poshan Tracker for distribution of Take-Home Ration (THR) to ensure that benefits are reaching the intended and identified beneficiary registered on Poshan Tracker. The Nominee Module has been introduced in Poshan Tracker to ensure uninterrupted delivery of THR to all the beneficiaries.

Poshan Tracker is also being used for delivery of ECCE at AWCs. Revised Home Visit Scheduler (HVS), an application integrated with Poshan Tracker, has been launched on 09.4.2026 to assist Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) in effective completion of Home Visits for pregnant women, lactating mothers and children of 0-3 years of age. HVS plans home visits for AWWs, provide structured counselling-tips on nutrition and health and provide Audio-Video contents on health and Early Childhood Stimulation (ECS) activities. For the purpose 14 videos on 140 activities aligned with Navchetana have been integrated with revised HVS. It also assists AWWs in observation and recording of development milestones of children of 0-3 years age. Further daily learning prompts are delivered to AWWs through Poshan Tracker in the form of over 249 videos, 190 voice notes and 130+ unique ECCE activity PDFs based on Aadharshila for delivery of ECCE for children aged 3–6 years at the AWCs.

(c) and (d): At present, Ministry of Women and Child Development does not propose skill development and entrepreneurship programs for women through Anganwadi and Self-Help Groups.

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