

The Abhiyaan aims to reduce malnutrition in the country in a phased manner, through a life cycle approach, by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach. The Abhiyaan has mechanisms for timely service delivery and a robust monitoring as well as intervention infrastructure. The major activities undertaken under this Abhiyaan are ensuring convergence with various other programmes; Information Technology enabled Common Application Software for strengthening service delivery and interventions; Community Mobilization and Awareness Advocacy leading to Jan Andolan- to educate the people on nutritional aspects; Capacity Building of Frontline Functionaries, incentivizing States/ UTs for achieving goals etc.

Further steps taken under the National Health Mission (NHM), a flagship programme of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, to address malnutrition inter alia include promotion of appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices, Anaemia Mukh Bharat, Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) supplementation, de-worming, promotion of iodized salt, Vitamin-A supplementation, Mission Indradhanush to ensure high coverage of vaccination in children, conducting intensified diarrhoea control fortnights to control childhood diarrhoea, management of sick severely malnourished children at Nutrition Rehabilitation Centers, monthly Village Health and Nutrition Days, Home Based Newborn Care (HBNC) and Home Based Young Child care (HBYC) programmes, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram, etc.

Cases filed under POCSO

1263. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases filed under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act during last three years, State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether in spite of having so many laws for crime against children like sexual offence, forced begging and child labour, the crime against children are increasing day by day in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action Government is contemplating to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) As per National Crimes Record Bureau (NCRB) reports, the number of

cases registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 in the last three reports of NCRB is given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) to (d) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibilities to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including children, rest primarily with the respective State Governments and UT Administration. The State Governments and UT Administrations are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. The data regarding crime against children is available on the website of National Crimes Record Bureau i.e. www.ncrb.gov.in.

Further under Section 2(14) (ii) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act), such children are considered as children in need of care and protection deserving the security net of Institutional and non-Institutional care under the JJ Act. Under the Act a stringent penalty shall be imposed on whosoever employs or uses any child for the purpose of begging or causes any child to beg. The primary responsibility of execution of the Act lies with the States/UTs.

The Government has taken a number of other initiatives for prevention of crime against children which includes:

- i. The Government is implementing a centrally sponsored Child Protection Services (CPS) scheme (erstwhile Integrated Child Protection Scheme) for supporting the children in need of care and protection (CNCP). The primary responsibility of implementation of the scheme lies with the State Governments/UT Administrations. Under the scheme, institutional care to CNCP and Children in Conflict with Law is provided in Child Care Institutions (CCIs). The scheme also provides for non-institutional care wherein support is extended for adoption, foster care and sponsorship. The scheme supports 24x7 outreach helpline service for children in distress. This service is available through a dedicated toll free number, 1098 which can be accessed by children in crisis or by adults on their behalf from any place in the geographical location of India.
- ii. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 was enacted for effective deterrence against sexual offences. Further, the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 was enacted to prescribe even more stringent penal provisions including death penalty for rape of a girl below age of 12 years. The Act also *inter-alia* mandates completion of investigation and trials within 2 months each.
- iii. The Government of India notified the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act, 2019 effective from 16.08.2019. The POCSO Act has been

amended in order to make it more effective in dealing with cases of child sexual abuse in the country. Additionally the Government has taken various steps from time to time to create awareness of the provisions of the POCSO Act through electronic and print media, consultations, workshops and training programmes with stakeholders concerned. Further, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs) are also mandated to monitor the implementation of the POCSO Act.

- iv. A cyber-crime portal has been launched for citizens to report obscene content.
- v. A “National Database on Sexual Offenders” has been launched to facilitate investigation and tracking of sexual offenders across the country by law enforcement agencies.
- vi. An online analytic tool for police called “Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences” has been launched to monitor and track time-bound investigation on sexual assault cases in accordance with the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018.
- vii. In order to improve investigation, steps have been taken to strengthen DNA analysis units in Central and State Forensic Science Laboratories. This includes setting up of a State-of-the-Art DNA Analysis Unit in Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Chandigarh.
- viii. Guidelines have been notified for collection of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases and the standard composition in a Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit. A TOTAL number of 6023 officers have been trained by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) and Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science. BPR&D has distributed 3,120 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits to State Governments/ UT Administration as orientation kit as part of training.

Statement

*Number of cases registered under the POCSO Act, 2012
as per NCRB reports*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2015 CR	2016 CR	2017 CR
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1054	830	378
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	54	59	14

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	819	821	1149
4.	Bihar	187	233	1356
5.	Chhattisgarh	1656	1570	1676
6.	Goa	79	75	0
7.	Gujarat	1609	1408	1697
8.	Haryana	988	1020	1139
9.	Himachal Pradesh	206	205	8
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	30	25	0
11.	Jharkhand	182	348	385
12.	Karnataka	1526	1565	1956
13.	Kerala	1486	1848	1169
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4624	4717	1569
15.	Maharashtra	4816	4815	5248
16.	Manipur	43	43	29
17.	Meghalaya	167	151	242
18.	Mizoram	169	167	194
19.	Nagaland	15	27	41
20.	Odisha	1372	1928	249
21.	Punjab	666	596	489
22.	Rajasthan	1311	1479	1180
23.	Sikkim	55	92	87
24.	Tamil Nadu	1544	1583	1587
25.	Telangana	1394	1158	1632
26.	Tripura	133	156	139
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4541	4954	4895
28.	Uttarakhand	168	218	191
29.	West Bengal	1504	2132	2131
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	39	49	65
31.	Chandigarh	62	51	3

	1	2	3	4	5
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli		15	11	12
33.	Daman and Diu		5	10	5
34.	Delhi		1936	1620	1623
35.	Lakshadweep		1	5	4
36.	Puducherry		49	53	66
TOTAL (All India)			34505	36022	32608

Source: Crime in India

Monitoring mechanism under POSHAN Abhiyan

1264. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nutrition Mission/Poshan Abhiyan has any monitoring agency to report field level feedback on the ICDS scheme and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has organized a Technology Partnership for the Mission/Abhiyan and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the monitoring mechanism put in place under the Mission/Abhiyan for its effective functioning?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) NITI Aayog is closely monitoring the status of implementation of POSHAN Abhiyaan. Further, there is a National Nutrition Resource Centre (NNRC) at National level and State Nutrition Resource Centre (SNRC) at State level to closely monitor the implementation of POSHAN Abhiyaan.

(b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development has signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through which ICDS-Common Application Software, a mobile based Application which is a job-aid to Anganwadi Worker, has been developed and deployed.

(c) Regular reviews and meetings are conducted at National and State/UTs level to monitor the progress of implementation of POSHAN Abhiyaan. Field level checks are carried out by the Ministry and State Governments. National Council under the Chairman-