

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1109
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2024

NATIONAL NUTRITION MISSION

1109. SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the objective of the Poshan Abhiyaan or National Nutrition Mission in the country by the Government was to create a “Malnutrition free India” by the year 2022;
- (b) If so, the details of achievement made by the Government through such a campaign and the details of the difficulties being faced in completing this campaign;
- (c) The mechanisms that are working to deal with the serious problems like malnutrition across the country; and
- (d) The details of funds provided by the Government under Poshan Abhiyan so far?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (c) The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is implementing several schemes/programmes of different Ministries/Departments through States/UTs to address various aspects related to nutrition. Under 15th Finance Commission, Anganwadi services, Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent girls (14-18 years in Aspirational Districts and North-East region) were subsumed under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0). Mission Poshan 2.0 seeks to address the challenge of malnutrition through improved nutrition content and delivery. It is a Centre Sponsored Scheme, where the responsibility of implementation of the scheme is with the States.

Under Mission Poshan 2.0 a strategic shift has been made for reduction in malnutrition and for improved health, wellness and immunity through community engagement, outreach, behavioral change, and advocacy. Mission Poshan 2.0 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 wasting, underweight prevalence, stunting and anaemia. Immunization, Health Check-up, and Referral Services to the beneficiaries are supported by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Mission Poshan 2.0 in convergence

with more than 18 Ministries/Departments supports and implements programmes to tackle malnutrition and promote health and wellness.

Under this scheme, Supplementary Nutrition is provided in accordance with the nutrition norms contained in Schedule-II of the National Food Security Act. To address the challenge of malnutrition more effectively, these nutrition norms have been revised. 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 quality protein, healthy fats and micronutrients.

Only fortified rice is being supplied to AWCs to meet the requirement of micro-nutrients and control anaemia among women and children. Greater emphasis is being given on the use of millets (Shree Anna) for preparation of Hot Cooked Meal at least once a week and Take Home ration (THR – not raw ration) at Anganwadi centers for beneficiaries.

Ministry of Women & Child Development and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare jointly released the protocol for Community Management of Malnutrition (CMAM) to prevent and treat severe acute malnutrition in children and for reducing associated morbidity and mortality.

Under Mission Poshan 2.0, one of the major activities undertaken is Community Mobilization and Awareness Advocacy leading to Jan Andolan to educate the people on nutritional aspects. State and UTs are conducting and reporting regular sensitisation activities under community engagement programmes during Poshan Maahs and Poshan Pakhwadas celebrated in the months of September and March-April respectively. Community Based Events (CBEs) have served as a significant strategy in changing nutrition practices and all Anganwadi workers are required to conduct two Community Based Events every month.

The indicators for malnutrition like children being underweight, stunted or wasted have shown a steady improvement as per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. As per the report of NFHS-5 (2019-21), the nutrition indicators for children under 5 years have improved as compared with NFHS-4 (2015-16). Stunting has reduced from 38.4% to 35.5%, while Wasting has reduced from 21.0% to 19.3% and Underweight prevalence has reduced from 35.8% to 32.1%.

As per the data of Poshan Tracker for the month of June 2024, around 8.57 crore children under 6 years were measured, out of whom 35% were found to be stunted, 17% were found to be underweight and 6% children under 5 years were found to be wasted. The levels of underweight and wasting in children as obtained from Poshan Tracker data are much less than those projected by NFHS 5.

(d) The State wise details of funds provided under Mission Poshan 2.0 Scheme are provided at Annexure-I.

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1109 FOR 31.07.2024 REGARDING “NATIONAL NUTRITION MISSION”

State/UT wise details of funds released under Mission Poshan 2.0 during the last three years:

| Name of the State/UT | Funds released (Rs. In crore) |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS | 35.71 |
| ANDHRA PRADESH | 2278.07 |
| ARUNACHAL PRADESH | 470.67 |
| ASSAM | 5204.84 |
| BIHAR | 5173.81 |
| CHANDIGARH | 68.22 |
| CHHATTISGARH | 1855.15 |
| DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI and DAMAN & DIU | 27.10 |
| DELHI | 477.69 |
| GOA | 39.49 |
| GUJARAT | 2879.30 |
| HARYANA | 594.07 |
| HIMACHAL PRADESH | 819.31 |
| JAMMU & KASHMIR | 1415.63 |
| JHARKHAND | 1448.19 |
| KARNATAKA | 2682.54 |
| KERALA | 1139.85 |
| LADAKH | 53.10 |
| LAKSHADWEEP | 5.43 |
| MADHYA PRADESH | 3220.15 |
| MAHARASHTRA | 5059.08 |
| MANIPUR | 566.15 |
| MEGHALAYA | 635.41 |
| MIZORAM | 202.39 |
| NAGALAND | 622.01 |
| ODISHA | 2958.71 |
| PUDUCHERRY | 7.37 |
| PUNJAB | 766.70 |
| RAJASTHAN | 2748.63 |
| SIKKIM | 79.54 |
| TAMIL NADU | 2302.98 |
| TELANGANA | 1540.88 |
| TRIPURA | 581.47 |
| UTTAR PRADESH | 7798.11 |
| UTTARAKHAND | 1067.74 |
| WEST BENGAL | 3133.50 |