

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 758
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024

“MALNUTRITION AMONG CHILDREN”

758. SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH:

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

- (a) The steps taken by the Government to tackle the problem of malnutrition among children,
- (b) The financial assistance provided by the Government in this regard during the last three years, State-wise including Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Telangana, and
- (c) The steps taken by the Government during the last three years to provide nutritious diet to the children as per the international norms.

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (c) The Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0) seeks to address the challenge of malnutrition through improved nutrition content and delivery. 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. The 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 and underweight prevalence beside stunting and anaemia.

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 nutrition norms were largely calorie-specific, however, the revised nutritional 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 micronutrients and control anaemia among the children. Greater emphasis is being given on the use of millets for preparation of Hot Cooked Meal at least once a week and Take Home ration (THR – not raw ration) at Anganwadi centres 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 children with severe acute malnutrition children 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 State/UT wise details of financial assistance provided by the Government during the last three years, including Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Telangana is annexed at Annexure I.

Annexure I

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 758 FOR 26.07.2024 REGARDING “MALNUTRITION AMONG CHILDREN” ASKED BY SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH.

State/UT wise status 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