

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1849
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2024

POSHAN ABHIYAN IN MAHARASHTRA

1849. SHRI AMAR SHARADRAO KALE :

SHRI NILESH DNYANDEV LANKE:

SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:

SHRI MOHITE PATIL DHAIRYASHEEL RAJSINH:

SHRI BHASKAR MURLIDHAR BHAGARE:

DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:

PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD:

SMT. SUPRIYA SULE:

SHRI AASHTIKAR PATIL NAGESH BAPURAO:

SHRI BAJRANG MANOHAR SONWANE:

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

- (a) the budget allocation made to the State of Maharashtra under the POSHAN Abhiyan during each of the last three years;
- (b) the present status of the POSHAN Abhiyan along with the number of beneficiaries thereunder during the said period in Maharashtra, district-wise;
- (c) the number of cases of stunting, under nutrition, anemia, and low birth weight among infants, children, adolescent girls and women reported during the period of implementation of POSHAN Abhiyan in Maharashtra, district-wise;
- (d) whether lesser amount has been sanctioned to States under the Abhiyan, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has put in place any monitoring mechanism to evaluate the success of the mission across the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the effective measures taken to mitigate the problem of stunting among children?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) Poshan Abhiyaan was launched on 8th March 2018. Under 15th Finance Commission, Anganwadi services, Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent girls (14-18 years in Aspirational Districts and North-East region) have been subsumed under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0) to address the challenge of malnutrition through improved nutrition content and delivery. The budget allocation, made to the State of Maharashtra under the Mission Poshan 2.0 during the last three years, is placed at **Annexure-I**.

(b) Mission Poshan 2.0 is a universal self-selecting (no entry barriers) scheme available to all the beneficiaries who enrol at the AWCs and is being implemented in all States/UTs across the country including the State of Maharashtra. The present status of Mission Poshan 2.0 in the State of Maharashtra, along with district wise details of beneficiaries, is provided at **Annexure-II**.

(c) The detail of anaemia, among children, adolescent girls and women and low birth weight of infants is released under National Family Health Survey (NFHS), which is conducted by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. The report of NFHS-5 is available on National Family Health Survey portal (<http://nfhs.in/nfhsnew/nfhsuser/publication.php>).

Various rounds of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted since 1992-93 have shown improvement in malnutrition indicators in children. Details of these indicators for children under 5 years since NFHS-1 to NFHS-5 are given below:

NFHS Survey	Underweight %	Wasting %	Stunting %
NFHS-1 (1992-93)*	53.4	17.5	52
NFHS-2 (1998-99)**	47	15.5	45.5
NFHS-3 (2005-6)***	42.5	19.8	48.0
NFHS-4 (2015-16)***	35.8	21.0	38.4
NFHS-5 (2019-21)***	32.1	19.3	35.5

* Under 4 years

** Under 3 years

*** Under 5 years

The above table gives a representative picture of malnutrition indicators among children of 0-3 years, 0-4 years and 0-5 years age at that time. The table shows that level of malnutrition among children has been coming down steadily during the last 30 years.

The projected population of children up to 5 years for the year 2021 is 13.75 crore (source: Population Projections for India and States 2011-2036, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare). However, only 7.65 crore children up to 5 years' age are enrolled in Anganwadis and registered on Poshan Tracker of the Ministry of Women & Child Development. As per June 2024 data of Poshan Tracker 7.37 Crore of these children were measured on growth parameters. 36.5% of these children have been found to be stunted, 16.4% children have been found to be underweight and 6% children have been found to be wasted.

Further, the projected population of children up to 6 years for the year 2021 is 16.1 crore. As per June 2024 data of Poshan Tracker, 8.91 crore children (0-6 years) are enrolled in Anganwadis out of whom 8.57 crore children were measured on growth parameters. 35.6% of these children (0-6 years) have been found to be stunted and 17.2% children (0-6 years) have been found to be underweight.

The district wise details of nutritional indicators of children in Maharashtra as per June 2024 data on Poshan Tracker are placed in **Annexure-III**.

(d) Under Mission Poshan 2.0, funds released to States since 2021-22 have only increased; the details of which are as follows:

2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
18,368.01 crore	19,849.82 crore	21,741.17 crore

(e) IT systems have been leveraged to strengthen and bring about transparency in nutrition delivery support systems at the Anganwadi centres. The 'Poshan Tracker' application was rolled out on 1st March, 2021 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, under-weight prevalence among children. The mobile application has also facilitated digitization and automation of physical registers used by AWWs that helps in improving their quality of work. Poshan Tracker is available in 24 languages including Hindi and English. It has facilitated near real time data collection for Anganwadi Services such as, daily

attendance, Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), Provision of Hot Cooked Meal (HCM)/Take Home Ration (THR-not raw ration), Growth Measurement etc.

(f) 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. The scheme 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.

Under this scheme, Supplementary Nutrition is provided to Children (6 months to 6 years), Pregnant Women, Lactating Mothers and Adolescent Girls to address the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition by adopting a life cycle approach. The 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.

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 for preparation of Hot Cooked Meal at least once a week and Take Home ration (THR – not raw ration) at Anganwadi centers for beneficiaries.

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.

Annexure I

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1849 FOR 2.08.2024 REGARDING “POSHAN ABHIYAAN IN MAHARASHTRA” ASKED BY SHRI AMAR SHARADRAO KALE, SHRI NILESH DNYANDEV LANKE, SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL, SHRI MOHITE PATIL DHAIRYASHEEL RAJSINH, SHRI BHASKAR MURLIDHAR BHAGARE, DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE, PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD, SMT. SUPRIYA SULE, SHRI AASHTIKAR PATIL NAGESH BAPURAO, AND SHRI BAJRANG MANOHAR SONWANE

Funds allocated to the State of Maharashtra under Mission Poshan 2.0 during the last three years:

Name of the State	Amount in ₹ crore		
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
	Funds released	Funds released	Funds released
Maharashtra	1713.39	1646.17	1699.52

Annexure II

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1849 FOR 2.08.2024 REGARDING “POSHAN ABHIYAAN IN MAHARASHTRA” ASKED BY SHRI AMAR SHARADRAO KALE, SHRI NILESH DNYANDEV LANKE, SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL, SHRI MOHITE PATIL DHAIRYASHEEL RAJSINH, SHRI BHASKAR MURLIDHAR BHAGARE, DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE, PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD, SMT. SUPRIYA SULE, SHRI AASHTIKAR PATIL NAGESH BAPURAO, AND SHRI BAJRANG MANOHAR SONWANE

District wise and category wise details of beneficiaries in the State of Maharashtra as on June 2024 from Poshan Tracker:

S. No	Districts	Children (0 - 6 months)	Children (6 months - 3 Years)	Children (3 - 6 Years)	Lactating mothers	Pregnant Woman	Adolescent Girls
1	Ahmednagar	14398	134045	156779	15872	18468	
2	Akola	3295	39329	48452	4124	5657	
3	Amravati	8792	79977	91017	10050	12940	
4	Beed	7334	82905	99123	8189	11248	
5	Bhandara	2979	32080	38041	3868	5452	
6	Buldana	8408	79581	90942	9291	10927	
7	Chandrapur	4729	51884	62676	5590	8611	
8	Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar	8490	104635	131328	9938	13057	
9	Dharashiv	4168	48638	56207	4910	6864	29586
10	Dhule	8111	83122	98299	8553	10179	
11	Gadchiroli	3901	37283	45634	4435	6519	23465
12	Gondia	5351	42804	48946	5522	7248	
13	Hingoli	3321	40799	45073	4189	5857	

14	Jalgaon	11560	125334	152064	13041	15884	
15	Jalna	5202	65867	77855	6444	8991	
16	Kolhapur	11153	87521	104662	12055	12275	
17	Latur	7993	68083	72607	8458	11092	
18	Mumbai City	1614	26233	36943	1704	2087	
19	Mumbai Suburban	8446	130028	176015	9051	11772	
20	Nagpur	6745	92433	108509	8903	13490	
21	Nanded	12361	114782	125650	12945	17589	
22	Nandurbar	6348	72250	83704	6752	10229	33697
23	Nashik	16455	169724	206297	18384	23051	
24	Palghar	6606	78578	103933	7689	9985	
25	Parbhani	3903	49680	57286	4728	6553	
26	Pune	16434	173898	205489	18397	20813	
27	Raigad	5728	60345	75106	6329	7716	
28	Ratnagiri	2991	25146	33674	3151	3217	
29	Sangli	7754	66212	84121	8347	9358	
30	Satara	6201	61983	77968	7375	7939	
31	Sindhudurg	1661	10812	13773	1641	1680	
32	Solapur	11190	117478	145725	12910	14393	
33	Thane	8265	106419	134371	8953	12593	
34	Wardha	2649	30709	37434	3258	4687	
35	Washim	4091	41617	45834	4796	6378	26492
36	Yavatmal	10336	83427	93812	10676	13130	
	Total	258963	2715641	3265349	290518	367929	113240

Annexure III

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1849 FOR 2.08.2024 REGARDING “POSHAN ABHIYAAN IN MAHARASHTRA” ASKED BY SHRI AMAR SHARADRAO KALE, SHRI NILESH DNYANDEV LANKE, SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL, SHRI MOHITE PATIL DHAIRYASHEEL RAJSINH, SHRI BHASKAR MURLIDHAR BHAGARE, DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE, PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD, SMT. SUPRIYA SULE, SHRI AASHTIKAR PATIL NAGESH BAPURAO, AND SHRI BAJRANG MANOHAR SONWANE

District-Wise details of nutritional indicators for children (under the age of 5 years) in the State of Maharashtra as on June 2024*:

S. No	District	Stunted (%)	Wasted (%)	Underweight (%)
1	Ahmednagar	47.63	3.81	14.26
2	Akola	47.05	5.61	12.65
3	Amravati	46.02	5.13	19.65
4	Beed	51.09	5.52	15.74
5	Bhandara	37.5	5.33	13.82
6	Buldana	41.35	3.36	15.44
7	Chandrapur	48.85	5.13	19.14
8	Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar	48.75	4.69	18.04
9	Dharashiv	36.33	4.15	12.65
10	Dhule	53.44	7.62	26.58
11	Gadchiroli	49.82	7.32	29.59
12	Gondia	48.83	5.59	17.47
13	Hingoli	52.91	6.8	19.68
14	Jalgaon	46.41	3.93	17.1
15	Jalna	53.43	3.52	18.46
16	Kolhapur	16.98	1.81	5.81
17	Latur	36.77	3.56	11.71

18	Mumbai City	36.31	9.2	15.03
19	Mumbai Suburban	36.54	8.68	15.63
20	Nagpur	40.16	5.81	13.28
21	Nanded	44.4	5.21	13.88
22	Nandurbar	68.21	11.26	47.25
23	Nashik	49.74	5.26	22.73
24	Palghar	66.82	3.47	30.21
25	Parbhani	53.7	5.28	16
26	Pune	35.7	3.36	10.4
27	Raigad	39.03	2.21	11.37
28	Ratnagiri	43.21	2.49	13.75
29	Sangli	28.01	4.22	8.5
30	Satara	39.56	2.83	9.55
31	Sindhudurg	43.52	3.58	17.15
32	Solapur	43.72	3.27	10.54
33	Thane	44.51	6.55	18.8
34	Wardha	50.45	3.33	16.06
35	Washim	33.75	1.02	4.55
36	Yavatmal	50.37	4.88	17.25

* As per Poshan Tracker data