

REPORT NO.

350



सत्यमेव जयते

**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA  
RAJYA SABHA**

**DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON EDUCATION, WOMEN, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND SPORTS**

**THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH REPORT**

**Demands for Grants 2023-24 of the  
Ministry of Women and Child Development**

*(Presented to the Rajya Sabha on 28th March, 2023)  
(Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 28th March, 2023)*



**Rajya Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi  
March, 2023 /Chaitra, 1945 (Saka)**

*Website: <https://rajyasabha.nic.in>  
E-mail: [rsc\\_hrd@sansad.nic.in](mailto:rsc_hrd@sansad.nic.in)*

Hindi version of this publication is also available

**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA  
RAJYA SABHA**

**DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON EDUCATION, WOMEN, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND SPORTS**

**THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH REPORT**

**Demands for Grants 2023-24 of the  
Ministry of Women and Child Development**

*(Presented to the Rajya Sabha on 28th March, 2023)  
(Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 28th March, 2023)*



**Rajya Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi  
March, 2023 / Chaitra, 1945 (Saka)**

## CONTENTS

<b>S. No.</b>		<b>PAGES</b>
1	COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE	(i)- (ii)
2	INTRODUCTION	(iii) – (iv)
3	ACRONYMS	(v) – (vii)
4	REPORT	1-56
5	OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE AT A GLANCE	57-63
6	MINUTES*	

\*To be appended

**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE**  
(Constituted w.e.f. 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2022)

1. **Shri Vivek Thakur** - **Chairman**

**RAJYA SABHA**

2. Dr. Faiyaz Ahmad
3. Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya
4. Ms. Sushmita Dev
5. \*Dr. K. Keshava Rao
6. Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh
7. Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu
8. Dr. M. Thambidurai
9. Shri Ghanshyam Tiwari
10. Shrimati Sangeeta Yadav

**LOK SABHA**

11. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
12. \*\*Dr. T.R.Paarivendhar
13. Dr. Dhal Singh Bisen
14. \*\*\* Vacant
15. Shri Sangam Lal Kadedin Gupta
16. Shri Sri Krishna Devarayalu Lavu
17. Shri Ghanshyam Singh Lodhi
18. Shri Sadashiv Kisan Lokhande
19. Dr. Jaisiddeshwar Shivacharya Mahaswamiji
20. Shri Asit Kumar Mal
21. Shri Anubhav Mohanty
22. Shri Balak Nath
23. Shri Chandeshwar Prasad
24. Shri T. N. Prathapan
25. Shri Ratansinh Magansinh Rathod
26. Shri Jagannath Sarkar
27. Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma
28. Shri Vishnu Datt Sharma
29. Shri Dharambir Singh
30. Shrimati Pratibha Singh
31. Shri S. Venkatesan

\*Nominated w.e.f.11.10.2022

\*\* Nominated w.e.f 16.11.2022

\*\*\* Vacant

## **SECRETARIAT**

Shri Jagdish Kumar, Additional Secretary

Smt Nirmala Bhatt, Joint Secretary

Shri. A.K. Mallick, Director

Shri Har Prateek Arya, Deputy Secretary

Shri K. Sudhir Kumar, Deputy Director

Shri Yogendra Kumar Srivastava, Assistant Committee Officer

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports, having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on its behalf, do hereby present this Three Hundred and Fiftieth Report of the Committee on the Demands for Grants (Demand No.101) of the Ministry of Women and Child Development for the year 2023-24.

2. In accordance with the constitutional requirement under Article 113, the estimated expenditure of the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India projected under various Demands for Grants for the upcoming financial year needs to be voted by Parliament. As a sequel thereto, Demands for Grants of the relevant Ministries/Departments stand referred to concerned Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee to make a close scrutiny thereof under Rule 270 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha). While making scrutiny of the Demands for Grants, the Committee has made an appraisal of the performance, programmes, schemes and policies of the Ministry of Women and Child Development *vis-a-vis* expenditure made out of Consolidated Fund of India in the current financial year.

3. In this Report, a scrutiny of the Budget allocations of the Ministry of Women and Child Development as sought under Demand No.101 for the Financial Year 2023-24 has been made by the Committee.

4. During the course of examination of Demands, the Committee heard the views of the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development and other senior officers of the Ministry. Inputs from organizations/agencies, *namely*, National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD), Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA), National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and National Commission for Women (NCW), were also made available to the Committee in its sitting held on 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023.

5. The Committee, while making its observations/recommendations, has mainly relied upon the following:-

- i. Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Women and Child Development for the year 2023-24;
- ii. Expenditure Budget 2023-24 and Output Outcome Framework 2023-24;
- iii. Annual Report 2022-23;
- iv. Presentations made by the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development and inputs provided by Senior Officers from National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD), Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA), National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and National Commission for Women (NCW);
- v. Written replies furnished by the Ministry of Women and Child Development to the Questionnaires (Issues and Schemes & Budgetary Allocations) prepared by the Committee; and to the points/issues raised by Members in the meeting of the Committee.

6. The Report is based on facts, figures and submissions (both oral and written) tendered by the Ministry of Women and Child Development to the Committee.

7. The Committee wishes to express its thanks to the Secretary , Additional Secretary and officers of the Ministry of Women and Child Development as well as Heads/Officers of the organizations/bodies under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women and Child Development for appearing before the Committee and furnishing the requisite information in connection with the examination of Demands for Grants of the Department.

8. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at its meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 and presented to both Houses of Parliament on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

9. For the facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the body of the Report.

NEW DELHI  
27<sup>th</sup> March , 2023  
Chaitra ,6 /1945(Saka)

**Shri Vivek Thakur**  
*Chairman*  
*Department-related Parliamentary*  
*Standing Committee on Education, Women,*  
*Children, Youth and Sports*



## ACRONMYS

ANM	Auxiliary Nurse-Midwife
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activist
AWC	Anganwadi Centre
AWH	Anganwadi Helper
AWW	Anganwadi Worker
AYUSH	Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy
BBBP	Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
BE	Budget Estimates
CARA	Central Adoption Resources Authority
CPS	Child Protection Services
CSWB	Central Social Welfare Board
CWC	Child Welfare Committee
CWPO	Child Welfare Police Officer
DBT	Direct Benefit Transfer
DCPU	District Child Protection Unit
DELNET	Developing Library Network
DLCW	District Level Centre for Women
DLSA	District Legal Service Authority
DM	District Magistrate
DWS	Drinking Water and Sanitation
EC	Empowered Committee
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
EFC	Expenditure Finance Committee
EWRs	Elected Women Representatives
FNB	Food and Nutrition Board
FY	Financial Year
JJB	Juvenile Justice Board
MHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MLALADS	Member of Legislative Assembly Local Area Development Scheme
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPLADS	Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme
MPV	Mahila Police Volunteer
MWCD	Ministry of Women and Child Development

NCLP	National Child Labour Project
NCPCR	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
NCW	National Commission for Women
NeGD	National e-Governance Division
NEP	National Education Policy
NHFS	National Family Health Survey
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NICSI	National Informatics Centre Services Inc.
NIMHANS	National Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences
NIPCCD	National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development
PMMVY	Pradhan Mantri MatruVandana Yojana
POCSO	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences
PW&LM	Pregnant Women and Lactating Mother
RE	Revised Estimates
RMK	Rashtriya Mahila Kosh
RO	Reverse Osmosis
SAG	Scheme for Adolescent Girls
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SARA	State Adoption Resources Authority
SCPCR	State Commission for the Protection of Child Rights
SCPS	State Child protection Society
SJPU	Special Juvenile Police Unit
SoE	Statement of Expenditure
SRCW	State Resource Centre for Women
UC	Utilization Certificate
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations International Children Emergency's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UT	Union Territory
VHSNC	Village Health Sanitation & Nutrition Committee
VO	Voluntary Organization
WHL	Women Helpline
WLCWPC	Ward Level Child Welfare and Protection Committee

## REPORT

### OVERVIEW OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Women and Children together constitute about 67.7% of the country's population, as per 2011 Census. Empowerment and protection of women and children and ensuring their wholesome development is crucial for sustainable and equitable development of the country. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the apex body of Government of India for formulation and administration of regulations and laws related to welfare and development of women and children in the country. It came into existence as a separate Ministry with effect from 30<sup>th</sup> January 2006, earlier, it was the Department of Women and Child Development set up in the year 1985 under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Ministry was constituted with the prime intention to address gaps in State action for women and children and for promoting inter-ministerial and inter-sectoral convergence to create gender equitable and child centered legislation, policies, and programmes.

1.2 **Vision:** Empowered women living with dignity and contributing as equal partners in development in an environment free from violence and discrimination; and, well-nurtured children with full opportunities for growth and development in a safe and protective environment.

**Mission – Empowerment of Women:** Promoting social and economic empowerment of women through cross-cutting policies and programmes, mainstreaming gender concerns, creating awareness about their rights and facilitating institutional and legislative support for enabling them to realize their human rights and develop to their full potential.

**Mission – Safe and Secure Childhood:** Ensuring development, care and protection of children through cross-cutting policies and programmes, spreading awareness about their rights and facilitating access to learning, nutrition, institutional and legislative support for enabling them to grow and develop to their full potential.

1.3 The list of the Institutions/ Organizations/ Bodies under the administrative control of the Ministry which received support from the Consolidated Funds of India is as under:

- (i) National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)
- (ii) Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA)
- (iii) National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)
- (iv) National Commission for Women (NCW)
- (v) Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB)
- (vi) Food and Nutrition Board (FNB)
- (vii) Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)

The Ministry has informed that in the premise of changed circumstances, according to the Report of the Committee of Ministry of Finance, there is no need to continue a few organizations, hence, Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB), Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) and Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) are being closed.

1.4 The stated mandate of the Ministry is:

- Holistic development of Women and Children
- Formulation of plans, policies, programmes and legislations
- National Nutrition Policy, National Plan of Action for Nutrition and National Nutrition Mission
- Guiding & coordinating efforts of both governmental organisations and NGOs
- Ministry's programmes play a supplementary and complementary role to other programmes in health, education, rural development etc.
- Empowering women both economically & socially to become equal partners in national development

1.5 A brief description on the various Schemes and bodies under the administrative control of the Ministry is as under:

**Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0:** The schemes of Anganwadi Services, Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent Girls of the erstwhile umbrella Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) have been revamped and brought under the Umbrella Scheme of Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0. The sub-schemes of the scheme are as under: -

**Anganwadi Services:** The scheme provides a package of six services, viz., supplementary nutrition, non-formal pre-school education, nutrition & health education, immunization, health check-up and referral services.

**Poshan Abhiyaan:** Poshan Abhiyan was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2018. It aims to reduce the level of stunting, under-nutrition, anemia and low birth weight in children through use of technology, targeted approach and convergence. It also aims to address the issue of malnutrition among adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

**Scheme for Adolescent Girls:** The Scheme for Adolescent Girls (14 to 18 years) has been revised to address the inter-generational problem of malnutrition by focusing on adolescent girls keeping in view the life cycle approach.

**Mission Vatsalya:** The scheme is being implemented with a view to create a safe and secure environment for comprehensive development of children who are in need of care and protection, children in conflict with law and other vulnerable children.

**Mission Shakti:** The erstwhile scheme of 'Mission for Protection and Empowerment of Women' has been revamped and brought under the Umbrella Scheme of Mission Shakti from the year 2021-22. The Mission Shakti has been divided into two sub-schemes as under: -

**(a) SAMBAL:** This sub-scheme is for safety and security of women. It includes components viz. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, One Stop Centre, Nari Adalat and Women Helpline.

**(b) SAMARTHYA:** This sub-scheme is for empowerment of women. It includes various components viz Shakti Sadan, Shakhi Niwas, Palna, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, National Hub for Women Empowerment, Gender Budgeting, Research/Skilling/Training/Media Advocacy.

**Food and Nutrition Board:** The Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) is a technical support wing under Child Development Bureau of the Ministry. FNB is responsible for the policy issues related to nutrition. It provides inputs for nutrition education and awareness through a wide range of nutrition education and extension services as well as training programmes.

**National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD):** NIPCCD conducts research and evaluation studies, organizes training programmes, seminars, workshops, conferences, provides information services in the field of public cooperation and child development and also caters to the need of training and research consultancy.

**Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA):** Central Adoption Resource Authority is a statutory body of Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India. It functions as the nodal body for adoption of Indian children and is mandated to monitor and regulate in country and inter country adoptions.

**National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR):** The NCPCR was set up under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 to ensure better protection of the rights of the child through the monitoring of constitutional and legal rights of children and monitoring programmes relating to the survival, welfare and development of children.

**National Commission for Women:** National Commission for Women is a statutory body constituted under National Commission for Women Act 1990. It has the mandate to investigate and examine all matters relating to the safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws.

**Central Social Welfare Board:** CSWB has initiated several programmes for the welfare and development of women and children, especially in rural areas.

**Palna-Creche facility:** The objective of the Palna component of the sub-scheme is to address the urgent need for quality crèche care facilities by providing a safe & secure environment for nutritional, health and cognitive development of the children, thereby enabling more mothers to take up gainful employment. The objective to provide crèche facility to all mothers, irrespective of their employment status, is a marked shift from the existing policy, arising out of the understanding that existence of quality crèche facilities is a necessary precondition to encourage women to explore employment opportunities. Under the component, an integrated

package of the services such as day care facilities including Sleeping Facilities, Early Stimulation for children below 3 years and Pre-school Education for 3 to 6 years old children, Supplementary Nutrition (to be locally sourced), Growth Monitoring and Health Check-up and Immunization in convergence with Mission Poshan 2.0 will be provided.

**OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF THE DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2023-24)  
OF THE MINISTRY**

2.1 The Budgetary allocation of the Ministry for the year 2022-23 was Rs. 25,172.28 crore with a Revised Estimate of Rs. 25,912.69 crore. The Budget Estimate (BE) for the year 2023-24 is Rs. 25,448.75 crore, under Demand No. 101. The allocation and expenditure for the last three years is as under:

**TABLE-I**

(Rs in crore)

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>% Achievement to RE</b>
<b>2020-21</b>	30,007.10	21,008.31	18,744.13	89.22
<b>2021-22</b>	24,435.09	23,200.00	21,283.56	91.73
<b>2022-23</b>	25,172.28	23,912.69	17,251.95 (as on 27.02.2023)	72.09
<b>2023-24</b>	25,448.75	-	-	-

2.2 The total allocation under BE 2023-24 against the different Schemes of the Ministry is as under:

**TABLE-II**

(Rs in crore)

<b>Name of the Scheme</b>	<b>BE 2022-23</b>	<b>RE 2022-23</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure as on 27.02.2023</b>	<b>BE 2023-24</b>	<b>% Utilisation w.r.t. RE</b>
Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0	20263.07	20263.07	14889.73	20554.31	73.25
Mission Vatsalya	1472.17	1100.00	537.88	1472.17	47.76
Mission Shakti	3184.11	2279.93	1596.38	3143.96	63.68



Other Schemes Funded from Nirbhaya Fund	20.00	20.00	4.95	20.00	12.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>24939.35</b>	<b>23663.00</b>	<b>17028.94</b>	<b>25190.44</b>	<b>71.09</b>

2.3 The Ministry has also informed about the difference of funds allocated to it as compared to the projected demand which is as follows:

**TABLE-III**

(Rs in crore)

<b>Statement indicating Projected Demand and Actual Allocation for the F.Y. 2022-23</b>					
<b>Sl. no.</b>	<b>Name of Scheme</b>	<b>Projected Demand</b>	<b>Actual Allocation (BE)</b>	<b>Actual expenditure as on 31.01.2023</b>	<b>Percentage utilization w.r.t. BE</b>
	<b>SCHEMES</b>				
1.	<b>Saksham Anganwadi Services and Poshan 2.0</b>	20258.17	20263.07	14842.32	73.25
2.	<b>Mission Vatsalya</b>	1472.17	1472.17	525.34	35.69
3.	<b>Mission SHAKTI</b>				
	<b>(i) SAMBAL</b>	547.00	562.00	140.34	24.97
	<b>(ii) SAMARTHYA</b>	2642.01	2622.11	1311.41	50.01
	<b>Total- Mission Shakti</b>	3189.01	3184.11	1451.75	45.59
4.	<b>Other Schemes funded from Nirbhaya Fund</b>	20.00	20.00	2.48	12.40
	<b>Total (Scheme)</b>	<b>24939.35</b>	<b>24939.35</b>	<b>16821.89</b>	<b>67.45</b>

2.4 The details of the Scheme-wise Projected Demand, Actual allocation and Percentage Allocation w.r.t Projected Demand for the financial year 2023-24 is as under:

**TABLE -IV**

(Rs in crore)

<b>Statement indicating Expenditure for the F.Y. 2023-24</b>				
	<b>Name of Scheme</b>	<b>Projected Demand</b>	<b>Actual Allocation (BE)</b>	<b>Percentage Allocation w.r.t. Projected Demand</b>
	<b>SCHEMES</b>			
1.	<b>Saksham Anganwadi Services and Poshan 2.0</b>	22289.00	20554.31	92.21
2.	<b>Mission Vatsalya</b>	1472.17	1472.17	100.00
3.	<b>Mission SHAKTi</b>			
	<b>(I) SAMBAL</b>	562.00	562.00	100.00
	<b>(ii) SAMARTHYA</b>	2826.91	2581.96	91.01
	<b>Total Mission Shakti</b>	3388.91	3143.96	92.77
4.	<b>Other Schemes funded from Nirbhya Fund</b>	20.00	20.00	100.00
	<b>Total (Scheme)</b>	<b>27170.08</b>	<b>25190.44</b>	<b>92.71</b>

2.5 The Ministry has also submitted the details of the funds allocated to various organisations/institutes/ bodies under its purview.

**TABLE-V**

(Rs in crore)

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of Organization</b>	<b>BE 2022-23</b>	<b>RE 2022-23</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure as on 27.02.2023</b>	<b>BE 2023-24</b>
1.	Secretariat	80.30	87.29	66.51	89.60
i	NIPCCD	56.80	51.00	44.60	56.00
ii	Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB)	37.74	50.41	59.28	40.06
iii	National Commission for Women (NCW)	27.00	33.70	25.00	42.00
iv	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)	21.09	19.71	21.92	21.25
v	Central Adoption Resources Authority(CARA)	10.00	7.58	5.70	9.40
vi	Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)	0	0	0	0
2.	Total for Autonomous Bodies	152.63	162.40	156.50	168.71
	<b>Grand Total (1+2)</b>	<b>232.93</b>	<b>249.69</b>	<b>223.01</b>	<b>258.31</b>

2.6 The Ministry has also informed that the budgetary allocation for the Ministry *w.r.t.* GDP is as under:

**TABLE-VI**

(Rs in crore)

<b>Year</b>	<b>GDP of India at Market Price</b>	<b>BE allocation for MWCD</b>	<b>Percentage of GDP allocated for the Welfare of Women and Children</b>
2022-23	27307751	25172.28	0.09%
2023-24	30175065	25448.75	0.08%

2.7 The Committee notes that the Ministry acts as the nodal ministry for the development of women and children, covering issues of welfare services, gender sensitization, and training for employment generation for women and many of the programmes run by the Ministry play a complementary role to developmental programmes in the sectors of health, education, rural development, and safety of women. The Committee appreciates that under BE 2023-24, the Ministry has been allocated Rs. 25,448.75 crores which translates to a 6% increase over the revised estimates of 2022-23.

2.8 The Committee notes that the Ministry has utilized Rs. 17251.95 crores as on 27.02.2023 which is about 72.09% of the amount allocated under RE *i.e* Rs. 23912.69 crores. The Committee also recommends that the factors responsible for underutilization of funds by States/ bodies be identified and remedial action be taken in a time bound manner.

2.9 The Committee also points out that the utilization of funds for different schemes varies from 70-71% of RE 2022-23. Noting that the Ministry has been allocated 92.7% of the projected demand, the Committee recommends that there is a need to encourage State Governments to develop a robust mechanisms which can help push for enhanced fund utilization from the funds allocated. It is also noted by the Committee that funds utilisation out of the allocated amount to various organizations have been about 89.5% of the total allocated amount.

**2.10** The Committee recommends that it would be beneficial for the Ministry to prepare a Standard Operating Procedure towards each major Scheme with responsibilities, timelines and an in-built monitoring mechanism so that the progress of the Scheme and the progressive fund utilization by States can be systematically tracked. The Committee also recommends that the factors responsible for underutilization of funds by States/ bodies be identified and remedial action be taken in a time bound manner.

**2.11** Noting the allocations under major Schemes, the Committee points out that as per BE 2023-24, Majority of the Ministry's total allocation distributed primarily amongst the three Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0 Scheme, Mission Shakti and Mission Vatsalya. Also, around Rs. 258 crores have been allocated amongst autonomous bodies such as National Commission for Women, Central Adoption Resource Authority, National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development and the National Commission for the Protection of Child's Rights. The Committee strongly feels that the Ministry implements some of the most important programmes in the country addressing the needs of women and young children and therefore enhanced budgetary allocations for the various Schemes of the Ministry would be helpful for further pushing its mandate.

## **SCHEMES/PROGRAMMES OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

### **3. SAKSHAM ANGANWADI & POSHAN 2.0**

3.1 The schemes of Anganwadi Services, Poshan Abhiyaan and Scheme for Adolescent Girls of the erstwhile umbrella Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) have been revamped and brought under the Umbrella Scheme of Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0. The primary objectives of Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 Schemes are to contribute to human capital development of the country, address challenges of malnutrition, promote good eating habits for sustainable health and well-being and address nutrition related deficiencies.

#### **3.1.1 Anganwadi Services:**

3.1.2 The scheme provides a package of six services, viz., supplementary nutrition, non-formal pre-school education, nutrition & health education, immunization, health check-up and referral services. After universalization of the services, the Government has approved 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres in 7075 Projects covering every habitation level of the Country. It is a universal scheme under which all children below 6 years of age, pregnant women and lactating mothers are eligible for services. Under the scheme the infrastructure in 2 lakh Anganwadi Centres @ 40,000 AWCs per year are being strengthened and upgraded across the country for improving untiring delivery, early childhood care and development services.

3.1.3 The Ministry has informed that the number of operational AWCs is as under :

**TABLE-VII**

As on March, 2020	1381376
As on March, 2021	1387432
As on March, 2022	1391004
As on June, 2022	1391412

Also the number of Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) beneficiaries is as under:

**TABLE-VIII**

As on March, 2020	85505148
As on March, 2021	83182823
As on March, 2022	94994406
As on June, 2022	95135016

3.1.4 As per the information provided by the Ministry, the status of infrastructure of AWCs is as under:

**TABLE-IX**

	<b>No. of Pucca AWCs</b>	<b>No. of Kutcha/Se mi-Pucca AWCs</b>	<b>No. of AWCs with Drinking water facility</b>	<b>No. of AWCs with Toilet facility</b>
As on March, 2020	1222595	148611	1154078	972362
As on March, 2021	1242126	142871	1196458	1005257
As on June, 2021	1255675	132478	1223370	1101843

Also, the details of Sanctioned and Operational Anganwadi Centres under Anganwadi Services Scheme as on 30 June, 2022 is as follows:

**TABLE-X**

<b>No. of Sanctioned and Operational Anganwadi Centres under Anganwadi Services Scheme as on 30 June, 2022</b>			
<b>S. No</b>	<b>State/UTs</b>	<b>No. of Anganwadi Centres</b>	
		<b>Sanctioned</b>	<b>Operational</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	55607	55607
2	Arunachal Pradesh	6225	6225
3	Assam	62153	61715
4	Bihar	114718	112094
5	Chhatisgarh	52474	51664
6	Goa#	1262	1262

7	Gujarat	53029	53029
8	Haryana	25962	25962
9	Himachal Pradesh	18925	18925
10	Jharkhand	38432	38432
11	Karnataka	65911	65911
12	Kerala	33318	33115
13	Madhya Pradesh	97135	97135
14	Maharashtra	110486	110427
15	Manipur	11510	11510
16	Meghalaya	5896	5895
17	Mizoram	2244	2244
18	Nagaland	3980	3980
19	Odisha	74154	74154
20	Punjab	27314	27305
21	Rajasthan	62010	61852
22	Sikkim	1308	1308
23	Tamil Nadu	54439	54439
24	Telangana	35700	35700
25	Tripura	10145	9931
26	Uttar Pradesh	190145	189430
27	Uttrakhand	20067	20067
28	West Bengal#	119481	119481
29	A & N Islands	720	719
30	Chandigarh	450	450
31	Dadra & N Haveli and Daman & Diu	409	405
32	Delhi	10897	10897
33	Jammu & Kashmir	30765	28078
34	Ladakh	1173	1138
35	Lakshadweep	71	71
36	Puducherry	855	855
<b>Total</b>		<b>1399370</b>	<b>1391412</b>



3.1.5 Details regarding availability of required infrastructure like drinking water/toilets/medical centres; State/UT-wise are as under:

**TABLE-XI**

<b>STATE/UTs WISE INFORMATION ON DRINKING WATER AND TOILET FACILITIES AS ON 30 JUNE 2021</b>					
<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Operational</b>	<b>No. of AWCs for which data is available</b>	<b>Total No. of AWCs/Mini-AWCs with Drinking water facility</b>	<b>Total No. of AWCs/Mini-AWCs with toilet facility</b>
1	<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	55607	55607	<b>55607</b>	40876
2	<b>Arunachal Pradesh*</b>	6225	6225	<b>6225</b>	458
3	Assam	61715	61715	41724	38896
4	<b>Bihar</b>	112094	111468	<b>111468</b>	111468
5	Chhattisgarh	51586	51586	47861	47435
6	<b>Goa</b>	1262	1262	<b>1262</b>	1262
7	Gujarat	53029	53027	50733	51465
8	Haryana	25962	25962	25662	23349
9	Himachal Pradesh	18925	18925	18880	18770
10	Jharkhand	38432	38430	27116	25547
11	Karnataka	65911	65911	54362	52393
12	Kerala	33115	33115	29194	32762
13	Madhya Pradesh	97135	97135	91950	94018
14	Maharashtra*	109832	109832	82617	56336
15	Manipur	11510	11510	6238	5017
16	Meghalaya	5896	5896	3692	5587
17	Mizoram	2244	2244	2055	2055
18	Nagaland*	3980	3980	3455	1654
19	<b>Odisha</b>	73172	73172	<b>73172</b>	32728
20	<b>Punjab</b>	27304	27304	<b>27304</b>	24768
21	Rajasthan*	61625	61625	48949	32527
22	<b>Sikkim</b>	1308	1308	<b>1308</b>	1306
23	Tamil Nadu	54439	54439	42527	46540
24	Telangana	35580	35580	33710	17508
25	Tripura	9911	9911	9102	8272
26	Uttar Pradesh	189309	188982	182589	176091
27	Uttarakhand*	20048	20048	16649	16454
28	West Bengal	119481	119481	88624	98597

29	<b>A &amp; N Islands</b>	719	719	<b>719</b>	673
30	<b>Chandigarh</b>	450	450	<b>450</b>	450
31	<b>Dadra &amp; N Haveli and Daman &amp; Diu</b>	405	405	<b>405</b>	405
32	<b>Delhi</b>	10755	10755	<b>10755</b>	10754
33	Jammu & Kashmir	28078	28078	25397	23482
34	Ladakh*	1140	1140	752	1089
35	<b>Lakshadweep*</b>	71	71	<b>71</b>	71
36	Puducherry	855	855	786	780
<b>Total</b>		<b>1389110</b>	<b>1388153</b>	<b>1223370</b>	<b>1101843</b>

\* Data has been taken for June, 2021 as Annual programme implementation plan(APIP) data is not available

The above highlighted States/UTs have Drinking Water Facility in all the existing AWCs of the State/UT

3.1.6 The Ministry has submitted that all the AWCs are running from Government owned buildings or in rented premises. No centre is operating from open space. As regards AWCs operating from rented buildings, it has been stated that the Ministry has advised the States/UTs to co-locate AWCs, wherever possible, to the nearby primary schools. It has been informed that Funds under Anganwadi Services are released only to States/UTs and release of funds is dependent on demand raised by States and status of utilisation as per UCs and SoEs. Whenever there are requirements for additional funds, the same are met through Supplementary Grants. Further it has been informed that the Ministry has issued directions to States/UTs to re-assess actual requirement of AWCs and accordingly operationalise the non-operational AWCs. However, inspite of repeated requests/directions, some of the States could not operationalise all the sanctioned AWCs. Therefore, it has been decided that all the non-operational AWCs would be deemed to have been surrendered so that they could be re-allocated to other States which are in need.

3.1.7 It has also been informed that under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, 50000 AWCs are proposed to be constructed @ 10000 per annum in convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005(MGNREGA). It is submitted that the demand for construction of AWCs is raised by the respective States/UTs and as noted the demand is for 27000 AWCs approximately and about 20000 AWCs are proposed to be allocated in the current FY for construction in convergence with MGNREGA. As per the revised guidelines, the cost of construction of AWC building under convergence with MGNREGA is

Rs.12.00 lakh per AWC out of which Rs.8.00 lakh would be provided under MGNREGA, Rs. 2.00 lakh under 15th FC funds (any other untied funds) and Rs.2.00 lakh by Ministry. AWC to be shared between Centre and States/UTs in the prescribed cost sharing ratio. There is also a component for upgradation of AWCs as Saksham AWCs under which 200000 AWCs would be upgraded into Saksham AWCs @ 40000 per annum.

3.1.8 The Ministry has further informed that under Saksham Anganwadi, across the country 2 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) (@ 40,000 AWCs per year) shall be strengthened and upgraded for improved nutrition and for ECCE delivery for stimulating the creative, social, emotional, cognitive and intellectual development of children under 6 years of age in convergence with education development programmes. For the Financial year 2022-23, 40,000 AWCs have been identified in aspirational districts across the country for upgradation out of which 39,704 AWCs across various States have been already selected for upgradation as Saksham Anganwadis by this Ministry. As on date, funds amounting to Rs.183.87 crores have been released to the States for upgradation of Anganwadis as Saksham Anganwadis. Further, the Ministry has taken the approval of Department of Expenditure for providing LEDs in all the Saksham Anganwadis for the Financial Year 2022-23.

3.1.9 The Ministry has also informed that under Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, it is proposed that States at their own discretion may involve Individuals, Companies, Business houses and Institution of repute and CSR funds for construction of AWCs purely on pro bono basis without any obligation. Similarly DMs may encourage/mobilize resources for this purely on pro bono basis and without any obligation. States/UTs may similarly permit funding of Anganwadi Infrastructure e.g., toilets, Rain Water Harvesting Systems ( RWHSs), DWS, etc., or any aspect of Anganwadi activity such as ECCE material, furniture, cooking utensils, kitchen infrastructure, storage facility, etc.

3.1.10 As regards Sanction/Creation of new AWCs, the Ministry has informed that all the 14 lakh AWCs approved by the Government of India have been sanctioned to the States/UTs. All States/UTs have been requested to re-visit the actual requirements of AWCs vis-à-vis the population of the area, number of children actually attending the AWCs and the number of AWCs available and furnish a detailed proposal to enable this Ministry to take a holistic view and initiate action to remove the mis-match between the demand and the actual position of AWCs/Projects in each State/UT. Also Anganwadi Centres are sanctioned on the basis of

population norms and can be relocated within the area of 5 km. Accordingly, States/UTs have been directed to re-locate those Anganwadi Centres which are running in rented premises to nearby primary schools. Under the NEP, AWCs without basic facilities can be co-located with schools to facilitate 5-6 year old children to attend the Bal Vatikas in primary schools.

3.1.11 The Ministry has also submitted that Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) & Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs), being honorary workers, are paid monthly honoraria as decided by Government of India from time to time. In addition to the honoraria paid by the Government, most of the States/UTs are also giving monetary incentives to these workers out of their own resources. Government has enhanced the honorarium given to Anganwadi Workers (AWW) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWH) w.e.f. 01.10.2018. The enhanced honorarium and provision of performance linked incentive approved for AWWs and AWHs under Anganwadi Service was given:

- i. The honorarium of Anganwadi workers (AWWs) at main-Anganwadi Centres has been enhanced to Rs.4500/- per month.
- ii. The honorarium of Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) at mini-Anganwadi Centre has been enhanced to Rs.3500/- per month.
- iii. The honorarium of Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) has been enhanced to Rs.2250/- per month.

In addition to the honorarium to AWWs/AWHs, Anganwadi Workers are also eligible for an incentive of Rs.500/- for feeding of beneficiary data on the Poshan Tracker, conducting home visits counseling and weighing and measuring of children. Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) would also be eligible for performance linked incentive of Rs.250/- per month for facilitating proper maintenance of AWC.

3.1.12 The Ministry has recently advised all the States/UTs to adopt uniform retirement policy i.e. 30<sup>th</sup> April of every year in respect of Anganwadi Workers/ Helpers. This would help the States/UTs to assess the vacancy requirements in advance and formulate policies for filling up the posts well in time.

3.1.13 The Ministry in respect of filling up vacancies in AWCs has informed that Implementation of the Anganwadi Scheme including filling up of vacant positions of Anganwadi Workers rests with State governments/UT administration. Through sustained engagements, States/UTs are requested from time to time to fill vacant posts of AWW, AWH. Further, States/UTs were requested to delegate powers to District Collectors/ District

Magistrates to recruit AWW/AWH and Supervisors (against promotion quota) in 112 aspirational districts across the country. In addition, the Ministry had also issued directions to recruit the ICDS personnel on contract basis till such time vacancies are filled up on regular basis. The details, State/UT-wise number of Sanctioned and In-position Anganwadi Workers/Anganwadi Helpers as under-

**TABLE-XII**

<b>STATUS REPORT OF THE UNDER ANGANWADI SERVICES SCHEME QUARTER ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER, 2022</b>													
<b>( SANCTIONED, IN-POSITION AND VACANT POSTS)</b>													
S. No.	State/UT	No. OF CDPOs			No. OF SUPERVISORS			No. of AWWs			No. of AWHs		
		Sanctioned	In-position	Vacant	Sanctioned	In-position	Vacant	Sanctioned	In-position	Vacant	Sanctioned	In-position	Vacant
1	Andhra Pradesh	257	255	2	1951	1298	653	55607	54366	1241	48770	46263	2507
2	Arunachal Pradesh	98	98	0	263	263	0	6225	6225	0	6225	6225	0
3	Assam	230	225	5	2280	2276	4	62153	61978	175	56728	56532	196
4	Bihar	544	407	137	4210	2077	2133	114718	112094	2624	107603	103141	4462

5	Chhattisgarh	220	191	29	1866	1437	429	52474	49654	2820	46660	42934	3726
6	Goa	11	10	1	50	50	0	1262	1221	41	1262	1203	59
7	Gujarat	336	145	191	2122	1630	492	53029	52244	785	51229	48717	2512
8	Haryana	148	75	73	1016	692	324	25962	24229	1733	25450	22474	2976
9	Himachal Pradesh	78	67	11	735	674	61	18925	18682	243	18386	17854	532
10	Jharkhand	224	74	150	1344	713	631	38430	37765	665	35880	35166	714
11	Karnataka	204	162	42	2505	2005	500	65911	64240	1671	62580	59080	3500
12	Kerala	258	246	12	1327	1151	176	33318	33115	203	33189	32986	203
13	Madhya Pradesh	453	400	53	3409	2983	426	97135	95470	1665	84465	81670	2795
14	Maharashtra	553	251	302	3899	2597	1302	110486	105487	4999	97475	82291	15184

15	Manipur	43	43	0	391	286	105	11510	11473	37	9958	9943	15
16	Meghalaya	41	39	2	185	0	185	5896	5891	5	4630	4628	2
17	Mizoram	27	27	0	90	90	0	2244	2244	0	2244	2244	0
18	Nagaland	60	60	0	170	170	0	3980	3980	0	3980	3980	0
19	Odisha	338	327	11	2808	2490	318	74154	72990	1164	63738	63030	708
20	Punjab	155	117	38	1046	705	341	27314	25438	1876	26074	22219	3855
21	Rajasthan	304	252	52	2197	1387	810	62020	59491	2529	55816	53642	2174
22	Sikkim	13	13	0	58	58	0	1308	1308	0	1308	1308	0
23	Tamil Nadu	434	321	113	1782	1350	432	54439	44441	9998	49499	39953	9546
24	Telangana	149	149	0	1440	790	650	35700	33793	1907	31711	27865	3846

25	Tripura	56	33	23	436	181	255	10145	9931	214	10145	9931	214
26	Uttar Pradesh	897	444	453	6643	2622	4021	189789	149033	40756	167506	141089	26417
27	Uttarakhand	105	49	56	597	404	193	20067	19450	617	14947	14219	728
28	West Bengal	576	265	311	5053	1121	3932	119481	105490	13991	119481	100062	19419
29	A & N Islands	5	3	2	28	27	1	720	719	1	689	689	0
30	Chandigarh	3	3	0	18	18	0	450	444	6	450	445	5
31	Dadra & N Haveli and Daman & Diu	4	2	2	17	6	11	405	405	0	337	337	0
32	Delhi	95	70	25	432	358	74	10897	10110	787	10897	10497	400
33	Jammu & Kashmir	128	118	10	1325	865	460	30765	27511	3254	30765	27601	3164



34	Ladakh	13	7	6	41	40	1	1173	1103	70	1173	1099	74
35	Lakshadweep	9	0	9	4	0	4	59	59	0	59	59	0
36	Puducherry	5	5	0	34	34	0	855	780	75	855	812	43
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7074</b>	<b>4953</b>	<b>2121</b>	<b>51772</b>	<b>32848</b>	<b>18924</b>	<b>1399006</b>	<b>1302854</b>	<b>96152</b>	<b>1282164</b>	<b>1172188</b>	<b>109976</b>

3.1.14 The Ministry has also informed about the innovations / new Initiatives taken and the proposed Initiatives in the year 2023-24 which are as under:

- Upgradation of all mini AWCs into regular AWCs
- Increase in construction cost of toilets from ₹12000 to ₹36000
- Increase in construction cost in convergence with MGNREGS from ₹7 to ₹12 lakh
- Drinking water provisioning increased from ₹10000 to ₹17000
- Uniform date of retirement of AWWs/AWHs
- Upgradation of 40000 AWCs into Saksham AWCs
- Increase in rent: ₹1000 to ₹2000 (rural); ₹4000 to ₹6000 (urban); ₹6000 to ₹8000 (metro)

#### **Proposed initiatives**

- 10000 buildings of AWCs to be constructed in convergence with MGNREGS
- 40000 AWCs to be upgraded into Saksham AWCs
- ECCE to be rolled out in all AWCs across India under National Education Policy
- Saturation of KPIs for Aspirational Block Development Programmes
- 100% saturation of AWCs in respect of toilets & drinking water

**3.1.15** The Committee notes that the Budgetary allocations, BE 2022-23 and RE 2022-23 in respect of Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 are same at Rs. 20263.07 crores. The actual spending as on 31.1.2023 is Rs 14842.32 crores. As for the BE 2023-24, the allocation for the Scheme is Rs. 20554.31 crores. The Committee appreciates the enhancement of Rs. 291 crores in the budget for Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0.

The Committee also reiterates its recommendation made in its 346<sup>th</sup> Report that a blueprint, prepared in consultation with States, towards infrastructure development and capacity building of AWCs will prove to be of immense help in identification and augmentation of various services and reach of AWCs.

**3.1.16** The Committee notes that the Ministry, on the aspect of finding avenues for CSR funds for building AWCs has stated that to raise alternative sources of funding, States may involve individuals, companies, and CSR funds for construction of AWCs purely on a probono basis without any obligations. The Committee is of the view that in order for CSR funds to flow into this social sector scheme, the Ministry would be required to formulate parametric guidelines with suitable incentives for corporates so that such sources of funding get enhanced. The Committee recommends that the Ministry may discuss the matter with States and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and take suitable measures towards this.

**3.1.17** The Committee noting the gap between sanctioned and operational Anganwadi Centers in various States recommends that the Ministry take up the matter with the respective States.

**3.1.18** The Committee recommends that the Ministry should point out to the respective State Administrations to take strong initiatives towards completion of construction of toilets and drinking water facilities at such AWCs where the same is missing.

The Committee recommends that the Ministry may consider setting up a suitable body which can take a look at the remuneration that is being paid both at Centre and at State levels to Anganwadi workers and recommend a base reasonable salary, with suitable increments, keeping in mind that it is a welfare programme.

**3.1.19** The Committee recommends that the Ministry make a thorough study through NIPCCD on the status and challenges being faced by AWCs, Anganwadi workers, and the States, based on which suitable follow up measures can be planned.

**3.1.20** The Committee notes with concern the vacant positions in AWCs at various levels. Noting that inadequate availability of Anganwadi workers/staff in AWCs has been a continuing area of concern, and as informed the filling up is done by States, the Committee is of the view that since the overall onus of successful and effective implementation of the Scheme lies with the States, it is incumbent upon them to address such vacancy gaps. The Committee recommends that the Ministry may write to each of the States where the vacancy positions are high for taking suitable measures to ensure that vacancies are filled up at the earliest and also seek a time schedule from them as to by when the vacancies are likely to be filled. The Status report based on inputs by States be shared with the Committee for its perusal.

## **3.2 Poshan Abhiyaan**

3.2.1 The Ministry has informed that Poshan Abhiyan was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2018. It aims to reduce the level of stunting, under-nutrition, anemia and low birth weight in children through use of technology, targeted approach and convergence. It also aims to address the issue of malnutrition among adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers. It seeks to address the challenges of malnutrition in children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers through a strategic shift in nutrition content and delivery and by creation of a convergent eco-system to develop and promote practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity. The Poshan Abhiyan has been rolled out in all States/UTs. It covers around 735 Districts including 112 aspirational Districts.

3.2.2 Also, Mission Poshan 2.0, an integrated nutrition support programme has been announced in budget 2021-2022 for all States/UTs. It seeks to strengthen nutritional content, delivery, outreach and outcomes with focus on developing practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity to disease and malnutrition. Under Poshan 2.0, focus is on diet diversity, food fortification, leveraging traditional systems of knowledge and popularizing use of millets. Nutrition awareness strategies under Poshan 2.0 aim to develop sustainable health and well-being through regional meal plans to bridge dietary gaps across all the districts including

aspirational districts and different regions of the country including rural, urban and tribal areas. Strategy of Jan Andolan, was developed to strengthen convergent actions across multiple stakeholders with focus on exclusive breast-feeding, complimentary feeding, growth monitoring, prevention of diarrhea, hygiene, water and sanitation, anemia prevention, importance of Poshan Vatikas for cultivation of local vegetables, medicinal plants/herbs and fruits at the community level, etc.

3.2.3 The Mission will be implemented during the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission period 2021-22 to 2025-26. Mission POSHAN 2.0 including POSHAN Abhiyaan has a total financial implication of ₹1,81,703 crores, comprising of ₹1,02,031 crores as Central share and ₹79,672 crores as State share. The increase in Central share is approx. Rs 10,108.76 crores (10.99%). The total cost under Mission Poshan 2.0 has been calculated on the basis of cost sharing ratio between the Central and States/UTs, as approved by Government i.e., 60:40 for States and UTs with legislature, 90:10 for NER & Himalayan States and UT of J&K and 100% for Union Territories without legislature.

3.2.4 Poshan Abhiyaan has provided a strong platform for targeted home visits, community-based events (CBEs) and growth monitoring with greater emphasis placed on home visits to promote maternal, infant and young child nutrition practices. More than 60 crore activities have been carried out under Poshan Maah and Poshan Pakhwada and 3.70 lakh CBEs have been conducted since the launch of the Abhiyaan. Best practices have been disseminated through zonal work-shops to address the challenges of malnutrition.

3.2.5 Digital infrastructure under the “Poshan Tracker” rolled out by the Ministry on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 through National e-Governance Division as a governance tool, will strengthen and bring about transparency in nutrition delivery support systems. Technology under Poshan Tracker is being leveraged for (i) dynamic identification of stunting, wasting, under-weight prevalence among children; (ii) last mile tracking of nutrition service delivery. 10.16 crore beneficiaries have been registered under Poshan Tracker (as on 31-12-2022). Details are as follows:

### **TABLE-XIII**

<b>Total Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Lactating Mothers</b>	<b>Pregnant Women</b>	<b>Children (0-6M)</b>	<b>Children (6m-3y)</b>	<b>Children (3y-6y)</b>	<b>Adolescent Girls (14y-18 y)</b>
<b>10,16,36,742</b>	<b>52,33,586</b>	<b>81,21,918</b>	<b>47,00,213</b>	<b>4,06,37,365</b>	<b>4,29,43,660</b>	<b>18,10,590</b>

3.2.6 It has been submitted that under POSHAN Abhiyaan, for the first time, the Anganwadi workers were empowered with mobile devices. 11.22 lakh smart phones have been provided to Anganwadi workers. Besides, to promote regular growth monitoring, 12.65 lakh Growth Monitoring Devices such as Infantometer, Stadiometer, Weighing Scale for Mother and Infant and Weighing Scale for Child have been procured by States/UTs under the Abhiyaan Under the key component of Jan Andolan, total five (5) Poshan Maahs and four (4) Poshan Pakhwadas have been held across the country since 2018. Also 60+ crore Jan Andolan based activities have been conducted since the launch of the Abhiyaan. The Poshan Maah conducted during the month of September 2022 witnessed approximately 17 crore Jan Andolan based activities throughout the country. Ministry of Women and Child Development, has notified Integrated Nutrition Support Programme – Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan (2.0), Rules, 2022 dated 12.09.2022 and published these rules on 06.10.2022.

3.2.7 The Ministry highlights that 90.49% of beneficiaries registered on the Poshan Tracker have been successfully verified with Aadhar. For the first time, Migration facility for pregnant women and lactating mothers from one AWC to another within and outside a State has been facilitated under the Poshan Tracker. Migration facility from one category to another category of beneficiary is also available. Integration of the Poshan Tracker with RCH portal of MoHFW is under progress. The Ministry is also doing collaboration with Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications & Geo-informatics (BISAG-N) for geo-mapping of AWCs.

3.2.8 Further, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has also established a call centre under POSHAN Abhiyaan. A toll-free number '14408' is allocated to Ministry of WCD for POSHAN Abhiyaan Helpline. The Call Centre is enabled with both Inbound & Outbound calls. Call Centre is supported for multi-lingual and expansion is synchronized with Roll-out of ICDS-CAS Application. The outbound are made in following languages i.e. English, Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Marathi and Malayalam.

3.2.9 Ministry of Child Development has initiated the proposal for developing Poshan Vatikas (kitchen gardens and nutri-gardens) in Anganwadi Centres, wherever possible, and in Government led schools and Gram Panchayat lands where benefits can easily be given to women and children. Another key plank of the Abhiyaan to enable the right kind of nourishment are the Poshan Vatikas or Nutri-gardens that are being set up across the country to provide easy and affordable access to fruits, vegetables, medicinal plants and herbs. To encourage diet-diversity and consumption of wholesome local produce, around 4.37 lakhs Poshan Vatikas have been developed at AWCs. Further, to promote regional diet diversity, six region-wise diet charts were developed, viz., North, North-East, West, South, East and Central. The area-wise diet charts are uploaded on Ministry's website in English and Hindi.

3.2.10 On a query regarding inclusion of Millets, the Ministry has submitted that considering the Nutritional quality of Millets all the States/UTs have been advised to incorporate millets in the recipes to enhance the nutritional quality of the meal provided under Supplementary Nutrition programme of Anganwadi Services. Under Guidelines for Mission Poshan 2.0, it has been advised to mandatorily incorporate millets in Supplementary Nutrition at least once a week. In Poshan Maah 2021, close to 2.9 lakh demonstration activities on cooking with millets were held across the country.

3.2.11 The Ministry has also submitted that MP, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Bihar and Gujarat were the States with maximum number of activities centred on popularizing consumption of millets. Under Poshan Maah 2022 as well, so far close to 18.34 lakh activities have been reported on promotion of millets. These include Awareness session on sensitizing Institutions, functionaries and community on benefits of millets, Events/camp to 'promote millets' and 'Backyard Kitchen Gardens', Recipe competition focusing millets etc .

3.2.12 The Ministry has also highlighted that Poshan Vatikas can meet the important dietary diversity gap that has been repeatedly revealed in different surveys by providing different fruits, nuts, herbs, medicinal plants and vegetables round the year. The main objective of introducing the concept of Poshan Vatika is to encourage community members to cultivate local food crops in their backyards. A nutrition garden ensures an inexpensive, regular and handy supply of fresh fruits and vegetables that are basic to good nutrition. Green vegetables and seasonal fruits contain vitamins and minerals that protect against micro-nutrient deficiencies and diseases.

Besides, efforts are being made in convergence with MoEF & CC and M/o AYUSH to undertake food forestry for planting nutritious trees.

3.2.13 Further, to reduce the malnutrition and anaemia in women and children arising due to deficiency of micro nutrients, under Supplementary Nutrition Programme of Anganwadi Services, Fortified Rice was allocated to 21 States/UTs during the 2nd quarter of FY 2021-22 and from the 3rd quarter of FY 2021-22 onwards only Fortified Rice is being allocated to all the State/UTs. Also nutrition norms contained in Schedule-II of the National Food Security Act have been revised recently based on inputs by this Ministry, to incorporate micronutrients iron, dietary folate, calcium, zinc, Vitamin B6, Vitamin B12 etc in the food composition of supplementary nutrition. In order to combat Anemia, the Ministry has also recommended that eggs may be included in the "Recommended Food Baskets", wherever culturally appropriate, in order to improve protein quality and provide adequate amounts of Vitamin B12. However, for beneficiaries not consuming eggs, equivalent amount of milk/nuts & seeds are recommended.

3.2.14 The Ministry has informed that it engages with the States/UTs regularly to understand the problems being faced in the implementation of the Scheme. Recently, the Ministry has concluded Zonal Meetings in various parts of the country. The States/UTs shared their perspectives and best practices being adopted suitable to their working conditions. The overall objective of the Zonal Conferences with States/UTs is to sensitize States/UTs on the menu of policy decisions and strategies devised by M/o WCD under the Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 Umbrella Mission and other Missions to address challenges facing women and children and for seeking States' support in implementing the Missions through active partnership for positive outcomes. Further, from time to time, the Ministry also issues advisories to States/UTs on various policy related matters with an aim to achieve optimum efficiency in implementation of the Scheme. Advisories are related to promotion of cleanliness, timely disposal of grievances for better citizen centric engagement, policy related issues etc.

**3.2.15 The Committee while noting the above measures appreciates the technological interventions in collecting the data related to Anganwadi Services and Poshan Abhiyaan on real time basis. The Committee, accordingly, keeping in view the fact that since this Integrated Nutrition Support aims at improving the nutritional and health status in children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers and addresses the challenges of malnutrition, recommends that the Ministry must closely monitor the**

**progress of the Scheme in the States and impress upon them to prioritize these welfare schemes so that benefits reach the needy.**

**3.2.16 The Committee further states that the spread of Covid and subsequent lockdowns have made programmes like Poshan 2.0 even more important as the pandemic has brought serious economic and social welfare challenges for the country and especially for the economically weaker sections of the society. Thus, such nutritional programmes require a strong push. Besides enhanced budgetary support, successful implementation would require sustained monitoring and a combined multi-sectoral approach. State-specific time bound strategies which take into account various socioeconomic factors, sectors and dimensions of nutrition be also incorporated in the roadmap.**

### **3.3 Scheme for Adolescent Girls:**

3.3.1 The Scheme for Adolescent Girls under Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0 is being implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The Scheme aims at providing nutritional support to Adolescent Girls (AGs) [14-18 years] for improving their health and nutritional status under the nutrition component and providing them IFA supplementation, Health check-up and Referral Service, Nutrition & Health Education and Skilling etc. under non-nutrition component of the Scheme. The targeted beneficiaries under the Scheme are AGs in the age group of 14 to 18 years in Aspirational Districts of States including Assam and all districts of remaining North Eastern States.

3.3.2 It has been noted that earlier the Scheme covered out-of-school AGs in the age group of 11-14 years. Under the said Scheme, Kishori Health Cards for AGs were maintained at the Anganwadi Centre (AWC) to record the information about the weight, height, Body Mass Index (BMI), along with the services provided to the AG under the scheme. The details of achievements/success made under the scheme were marked on Kishori Card and the card also carried important milestones of AGs life. However, with the enforcement of Right to Education Act, 2009 there was a decline seen in the number of beneficiaries of the Scheme since the RTE Act provides legal entitlement for compulsory and free education to AGs in the age group of 11-14 years and all the AGs in this group are entitled to go-to school. However, the earlier Scheme has been discontinued since 31.03.2022 and the revised SAG Scheme has been introduced and subsumed under Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0. Simultaneously the Ministry has also



launched a campaign “Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav” wherein all the States/UTs were requested to enroll all the Out of School AGs in the age group of 11-14 years as mandated under RTE Act.

3.3.3 Presently SAG is covering AGs [14-18 years] in Aspirational Districts of States including Assam; and all districts of remaining North Eastern States. To streamline monitoring of the Scheme, presently, SAG is being monitored through Poshan Tracker app which has been rolled out by the Ministry through National e-Governance Division for enabling real-time monitoring of Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0 wherein tracking of activities of Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), service deliveries of Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and complete beneficiary management of Children, Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers and Adolescent Girls is being done.

**3.3.4 The Committee noting the aims of the Scheme and its thrust on Adolescent Girls, recommends that aspects like awareness and promotion of Menstrual Hygiene, use and safe disposal of sanitary napkins, countering anemia, career guidance, Vocational skill based training and other such areas which confront girls at that stage of their life and would be beneficial for their growth be suitably incorporated as components of the Scheme.**

### **3.4 MISSION VATSALYA**

3.4.1 The Government has formulated Mission Vatsalya Scheme subsuming the erstwhile Child Protection Services (CPS) Scheme for ensuring comprehensive child welfare including child protection. The Scheme is being implemented with a view to create a safe and secure environment for comprehensive development of children who are in need of care and protection, children in conflict with law and other vulnerable children. Thus, through this Centrally Sponsored Scheme the areas addressed are primary assistance to homes for children, juvenile justice for children in need of care and children in conflict with law, and integrated programme for street children. Mission Vatsalya Scheme is implemented through the State Governments/UT Administrations on predefined cost sharing financial pattern.

3.4.2 The Ministry has informed that the objectives of the Scheme are as follows:

- Ensure children's right to survival, development, protection and participation
- Establish essential services and strengthen emergency outreach and non-institutional care

- Promote convergent efforts for seamless service delivery to children
- Promote best interests of the child while designing projects/programmes
- Raise public awareness and educate them about child rights
- Encourage private sector partnerships and interventions to support children
- Strengthen child protection at family and community levels

3.4.3 The current status of implementation of Mission Vatsalya Scheme in all States/UTs is as under:

- Number of Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) - 727
- Number of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) - 753
- Number of District Child Protection Units (DCPUs) - 734
- Number of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) - 2245
- Beneficiaries Covered - 76118
- Child line services functional in 569 districts as on date.
- Child Help Desks are established at 137 major Railway stations as on date.

3.4.4 As regards the Budgetary allocation towards the Scheme, it has been noted that BE 2022-23 was Rs. 1472.17 crore with RE 2022-23 at Rs. 1100.00 crore. The Actual expenditure that has been informed as on 27.02.2023 is only Rs. 537.88 crores. The BE 2023-24 for the Scheme is the same as BE 2022-23 i.e Rs. 1472.17 crore. However, this allocation is an increase of 34% over the Revised Estimates for 2022-23.

3.4.5 It has also been informed that the Scheme was appraised by Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) for the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission period (2020-21 to 2025-26) on 21.05.2021. The total Cost is Rs.10,916.42 Cr for F.Y 2021-22 to 2025-26. The Central share is Rs.6,927.90 Cr and State share is Rs.3988.52 Cr. The following table mentions the total year wise estimate.

**TABLE-XIV**  
**Total year wise Estimate**

(Rs. in crore)

<b>Cost</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>Total</b>
Centre	1039.21	1472.17	1472.17	1472.17	1472.17	6927.90
State	610.33	844.55	844.55	844.55	844.55	3988.52
<b>Total</b>	<b>1649.54</b>	<b>2316.72</b>	<b>2316.72</b>	<b>2316.72</b>	<b>2316.72</b>	<b>10916.42</b>

3.4.6 The Ministry has informed that some of the activities proposed to be undertaken under the Scheme are as under:

- Developing and hosting a uniform portal to maintain database of children;
- Supporting the initiatives of ‘Support Advocacy and Mental Health Interventions for Children in Vulnerable Circumstances and Distress (SAMVAD)’ centre at National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru and replicating similar Centers in other parts of the Country for providing mental health interventions and capacity building for psycho social support to children and care givers;
- Supporting National Child Resource Centre at National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD);
- Grading of Child Care Institutions;
- Strengthening adoption ecosystem in collaboration with Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), State Adoption Resource Agencies (SARAs) and District Magistrates
- Investing in experimental/innovative/pilot projects to suit local requirements and partnerships for child protection with Organisations/ Institutions of repute;
- Training and Capacity building of Stakeholders (including Care givers in CCIs, Central, State and District Child Protection Units, Panchayat Network, Block & Village level Child protection Units, Police, legal fraternity, Media professionals etc),
- Advocacy & Information, Education & Communication (IEC) activities;
- Develop Child Survey tool in collaboration with Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) (including children with all types of disabilities, as acknowledged by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment);
- Research and documentation etc.

3.4.7 The Ministry in their presentation before the Committee apprised about the progress made under the Scheme which is as under:

**TABLE-XV**

## Progress

Sr. No.	Components	2021-22 (As on 31.03.2021)		2022-23 (As on 31.12.2022)	
		*CCIs Assisted	Beneficiaries	*CCIs Assisted	Beneficiaries
1.	Non-Institutional Care (Sponsorship, Aftercare & Foster care)		26084		62675
2.	Institutional Services (Children Home, Observation Home, Special Home, Place of safety)	1592	67864	1614	66965
3.	Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs)	373	3751	390	4105
4.	Open Shelters	250	6000	241	5048
	<b>Total Assisted</b>	<b>2215</b>	<b>103699</b>	<b>2245</b>	<b>138793</b>
<b>Service Delivery Structures</b>					
1.	Child Welfare Committees (CWCs)		719		753
2.	Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs)		717		727
3.	District Child Protection Units (DCPUs)		732		734
4.	Registered Child Care Institutions (CCIs)		7275 (As on 15.07.2020)		5913 (As on 30.06.2022)

\*Child Care Institutions

22

3.4.8 The innovations and new Initiatives that have been highlighted are :

- ₹10 Lakhs/district for non-institutional care removed
- ₹4000 per child per month introduced for Sponsorship, Foster Care and After Care- Private/Corporate Sponsorship
- Increased per child monthly maintenance:- ₹2500 for SAA & Open Shelter, ₹3000 for CCIs
- Established “SAMVAD” (Support Advocacy & Mental Health Interventions for Children in Vulnerable Circumstances And Distress) with NIMHANS
- Introduced Vatsalya Sadan – An Integrated Home Complex of CCIs with JJB and CWC, located in single premises for implementation of JJ Act.
- CCIs with sanctioned capacity for 25 children introduced in NE/Hilly States & UTs
- Construction Fund for Government owned facilities increased to ₹135 Lakhs

3.4.9 As regards the monitoring mechanism, it has been informed that monitoring is carried out at district, state, and national levels. Monitoring at district level is carried out by the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) headed by District Magistrate. At the State level, monitoring is

carried out by the State Child Protection Society (SCPS) headed by State Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development. At the Centre, monitoring is carried out by the Bureau Head concerned in the Ministry. The States/UTs have been asked to submit Utilization Certificates and Statement of Expenditure immediately after the closure of financial year and all States and UTs have opened Single Nodal Account (SNA) under Mission Vatsalya and the SNA account have been mapped with the Implementing Agencies on PFMS portal to avoid procedural delays and underutilization of funds.

**3.4.10 The Committee observes that it is common knowledge that there are States where there are either none or very few juvenile observation homes. Moreover the living conditions in a number of such juvenile homes are inadequate and require enhancement in terms of adequate space, quality of toilets, recreational activities, and trained staff. The Committee recommends that such issues be taken note of and remedial action be initiated so that the vulnerable children get proper support.**

### **3.5 MISSION SHAKTI**

3.5.1 The erstwhile scheme of 'Mission for Protection and Empowerment of Women' has been revamped and brought under the Umbrella Scheme of Mission Shakti from the year 2021-22.

The primary objectives of the Mission Shakti are as under:

- Provide immediate and comprehensive continuum of care, support and assistance to women affected by violence and distress
- Rescue, protect and rehabilitate women in need of assistance and victims of crime and violence
- Improve accessibility to various government services available for women
- Making people aware of government schemes/programmes and legal provisions to promote gender equality and justice
- Prevent female infanticide
- Create awareness for positive behavioural changes towards women

3.5.2 The Mission Shakti has been divided into 2 sub-schemes as under: -

(A) **SAMBAL:** This sub-scheme includes components viz. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, One Stop Centre, Nari Adalat and Women Helpline.

(i) **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao:** Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme aims to address the issue of

declining female child sex ratio through mass campaigns across the country. The scheme focused on multi sectoral interventions in 405 selected districts low in CSR. The expansion of BBBP Scheme has been approved covering all districts. The scheme aims to increase sex ratio at birth, reduce under 5 child mortality, increase institutional deliveries, enhance enrollment in school, provide girl toilets, create awareness about POCSO Act, access to skilling, vocational training, etc.

- (ii) **One Stop Center:** One Stop Centre is exclusively designed to provide support and assistance to women affected by violence, both in private and public spaces, including in the family, community, workplace etc. under one roof. The scheme aims to facilitate access to an integrated range of services including medical aid, police assistance, legal aid/ case management, psychosocial counselling and temporary support service to women affected by violence. The scheme is being implemented since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015.
- (iii) **Women Helpline:** The scheme is being implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2015. The Women Helpline (WHL) provides 24 hours emergency and non-emergency response to all women affected by violence and in distress, both in public and private sphere. It also gives information about women related Government schemes across the country through a single uniform number.
- (iv) **Nari Adalat:** Nari Adalat has been added as a new component of Mission Shakti with aim to provide women with an alternate Grievance Redressal Mechanism for resolving cases of petty nature (harassment, subversion, curtailment of rights or entitlements) faced by women at Gram Panchayat level.
- (B) **SAMARTHYA:** The sub-scheme includes various components viz Shakti Sadan, Shakhi Niwas, Palna, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, National Hub for Women Empowerment, Gender Budgeting, Research/ Skilling/ Training/Media Advocacy.
- (v) **Shakti Sadan:** The component aims to support women victims of difficult circumstances including trafficked women who are in need of institutional support for rehabilitation so that they could lead their life with dignity. It envisages shelter, food, clothing and health as well as economic and social security are assured for such women. The Salient features of Shakti Sadan Scheme are :

- i. The resident of Shakti Sadan provided with shelter, food, clothing, counseling, primary health facilities and other daily requirements. The residents also to be provided vocational training, facility for opening of bank accounts, social security benefits etc in convergence with the relevant departments.
- ii. The cost for running the homes i.e. administrative cost @15,000/- per month, management cost @12,84,000/- per annum, rent as per city category A, B & C is provided. There is a provision for repatriation, reintegration, reward @2,50,000/- per annum. Besides @500/- per month per beneficiary in Jan Dhan Account is given which cannot be withdrawn by the account holders during their stay in the Home.
- iii. The facilities of these Home can also be availed by the children accompanying women. Unmarried girls up to any age and boys up to 12 years of age can stay in Shakti Sadans with their mothers. (Boys of more than 12 years of age need to be shifted to the Children Homes run under JJ Act/Mission Vatsalya)
- iv. The Shakti Sadan to be linked with nearby police stations so as to ensure safety, security and well being of women. Annual Police verification should be done for the staff of these Homes.
- v. Homes could be set up for mentally challenged/DIVYANG women also in convergence with schemes of Department of Social and Justice and Department of Empowerment of Person with Disability.

The Ministry submitted that this is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with funding ratio of 60:40 between the Central and the State Governments and UTs with legislature except North East and Special Category States where funding ratio is 90:10. For UTs without legislature, 100% funding to be provided by the Central Government.

- (vi) **Sakhi Niwas:** Sakhi Niwas earlier known as Working Women Hostel is a demand driven scheme. It is meant to promote availability of safe and conveniently located accommodation for working women, with day care facility for their children, in urban, semi-urban, or even rural areas where employment opportunity for women exist, as per local needs and requirement of the States/UTs.
- (vii) **Palna- Creche facility:** The objective of the Palna component of the sub-scheme is to address the urgent need for quality crèche care facilities by providing a safe & secure environment for nutritional, health and cognitive development of the children, thereby enabling more mothers to take up gainful employment. The objective to provide crèche facility to all mothers, irrespective of their employment status, is a marked shift from the existing policy, arising out of the understanding that existence of quality crèche facilities

is a necessary precondition to encourage women to explore employment opportunities. Under the component, an integrated package of the services such as day care facilities including Sleeping Facilities, Early Stimulation for children below 3 years and Pre-school Education for 3 to 6 years old children, Supplementary Nutrition (to be locally sourced), Growth Monitoring and Health Check-up and Immunization in convergence with Mission Poshan 2.0 will be provided.

**(viii) Pradhan Mantri Matru Vanadna Yojana:** The Hon'ble Prime Minister in his address to the nation on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2016, announced Pan-India implementation of Maternity Benefit Programme for eligible Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers (PW&LM). The scheme has been named as Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY). The scheme aims to provide partial compensation for the wage loss in terms of cash incentive so that the woman can take adequate rest before and after delivery of the first child and lead to improved health seeking behavior amongst the PW&LM. The Scheme envisages to provide cash incentive directly to the Bank/Post Office Account of PW&LM in DBT Mode during pregnancy and lactation in response to individual fulfilling specific conditions. Further, as per the new guideline for 'Mission Shakti', applicable with effect from 01.04.2022, under PMMVY 2.0, all eligible beneficiaries are entitled for maternity benefits under the scheme for two living children, provided the second child is girl child, through this, the scheme seeks to improve the child sex ratio. Scheme is focused on women belonging to socially and economically disadvantaged sections of society. Also, conditions for cash incentive have been modified, for first child; the cash incentive of ₹5000 is to be provided in two installments (1<sup>st</sup> Installment - ₹3,000 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Installment - ₹ 2,000). For the second child, benefit of ₹6000 will be provided in one installment; subject to the child is girl. Also, requirement of husband's Aadhaar has been removed.

**(ix) Hub for Empowerment of Women:** Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW) aims to facilitate inter-sectoral convergence of schemes and programs meant for women both at the Central (NHEW), State/ UT level (SHEW) and district level (DHEW) with the mandate to create an environment in which women realize their full potential. The support under the HEW would be for guiding, linking and hand-holding women to various institutional and schematic set ups for their empowerment and development including equal access to healthcare, quality education, career and vocational counseling/



training, financial inclusion, entrepreneurship, backward and forward linkages, health and safety for workers, social security and digital literacy at districts/ Blocks/Gram Panchayats level across the country.

(x) **Gender Budgeting & Research Publication and Monitoring:** Gender Budgeting was adopted as a powerful tool for promoting gender equality and ensuring continued investments through Government planning and budgeting. Gender budgeting maintains a gender perspective at various stages of programme/policy formulation, assessment of needs of target groups, review of existing policies and guidelines, allocation of resources, implementation of programmes, gender sensitive output/outcome achievement, gender audit and impact assessment, and reprioritization of resources. The Ministry sponsors projects of research, publications & Monitoring in the fields of welfare and development of women and children including aspects relating to food and nutrition.

3.5.3 The total amount of the sub-schemes under Mission Shakti have been approved as Rs. 20989 crore with Central Share of Rs. 15761 crore. The details are as under:

**TABLE-XVI**

(Rs. in crore)

<b>Scheme/ Component</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>Total Cost upto 2025-26</b>	<b>Central Share</b>	<b>State Share</b>
<b>Sambal</b>								
One Stop Centre	262	265	320	348	393	1613	1613	-
Women Helpline	72	47	47	22	22	209	209	-
Beti Bachao Beti	222	222	222	222	222	1112	1112	-

Padhao								
Nari Adalat	0	2	2	3	3	10	10	-
Total of Sambal	<b>556</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>2943</b>	2943	-
<b>Samarthya</b>								
NHEW	483	419	420	421	425	2168	1938	230
Shakti Sadan	250	258	266	279	300	1352	913	439
SakhiNiwas	83	66	71	77	53	350	236	114
Palna	53	75	104	133	161	526	355	171
PMMVY	2630	2630	2630	2630	2630	13150	8876	4274
<b>Total of Samarthya</b>	<b>3499</b>	<b>3447</b>	<b>3491</b>	<b>3540</b>	<b>3569</b>	<b>17546</b>	<b>12318</b>	<b>5228</b>
<b>Total Sambal + Samarthya</b>	<b>4055</b>	<b>3984</b>	<b>4082</b>	<b>4134</b>	<b>4209</b>	<b>20489</b>	15261	5228
<b>Media</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>500</b>	500	-
<b>Grand Total of Mission Shakti</b>	<b>4155</b>	<b>4084</b>	<b>4182</b>	<b>4234</b>	<b>4309</b>	<b>20989</b>	<b>15761</b>	<b>5228</b>

The BE and Actual utilisation for the years 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 are as under:

**TABLE-XVII**

(Rs in crore)

<b>Name of the Scheme</b>	<b>BE 2020-21</b>	<b>Actual Utilisation</b>	<b>BE 2021-22</b>	<b>Actual Utilisation</b>	<b>BE 2022-23</b>	<b>Actual Utilisation</b>
Women Helpline	30.00	12.53	587.00	12.53	562.00	85.49
One Stop Centre	385.00	159.78		159.78		
Nari Adalat	0.00	0.00		0.00		
Beti Bachao Beti Padhao	222.00	60.57		57.13		

In respect of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme, the details of allocated funds and expenditure is as under:

**TABLE-XVIII**

(Rs. in crore)

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Revised Estimates (R.E)</b>	<b>Total Expenditure by Ministry</b>
1.	2019-20	200	85.78
2.	2020-21	100	60.57
3.	2021-22	100	57.13
4.	2022-23	222	40.57*

\* As on 31.12.2022

3.5.4 National Hub for Empowerment of Women (NHEW), State Hubs for Empowerment of Women (SHEW) and District Hubs for Empowerment of Women (DHEW) are envisaged for drilling down effective delivery, monitoring and feedback. The Ministry has informed that in this respect the following is being undertaken:

- i. Index and Rewards: To assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the schemes and efficacy of the process, an index would be developed while taking into account the various parameters covered under both the sub-schemes. The Ministry would publish the ranking of States/UTs/Districts and recognize/reward the best performing ones suitably.
- ii. Geo Tagging: The field institutions supported by the Ministry are to be geo tagged. Their locations, addresses and contact details would be integrated in the Enterprise Architecture of the Ministry and on Umang App for ease of access.
- iii. Mechanism for monitoring of outcome-based indicators for the scheme will be put in place.
- iv. Gender Index developed and institutionalized.
- v. Grievance redressal and feedback systems will be firmed up.

vi. Advocacy and outreach will be undertaken on mass scale in order to tackle the problem of deep-rooted patriarchy.

3.5.5 The Ministry in its presentation before the Committee has highlighted the progress made, Innovations/ initiatives and proposed initiatives for the year 2023-24 which are as under:

Progress – Till Date	
One Stop Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approved – 801; Operational – 733</li><li>• Over 6.7 Lakh women assisted</li></ul>
Women Helpline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Functional – 34 States/UTs</li><li>• Over 84 Lakh calls handled</li></ul>
Beti Bachao Beti Padhao	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expanded to all districts</li><li>• Convergence extended with MoSDE &amp; MoMA for skilling young girls in Non-Traditional Livelihood activities</li></ul>

1

Progress – Till Date	
PMMVY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Beneficiaries enrolled – 3.27 Cr</li><li>• Beneficiaries paid – 2.96 Cr; Maternity benefits worth Rs 13,037 Cr</li></ul>
Hub for Empowerment of Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approved for all States/UTs and districts</li></ul>
Shakti Sadan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Beneficiaries – 10,955</li><li>• Functional – 441 (Swadhar Greh &amp; Ujjawala Homes)</li></ul>
Sakhi Niwas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Functional – 494</li><li>• Beneficiaries – 23,319</li></ul>

16

## Innovations / New Initiatives

### One Stop Centers

- Training of functionaries through NIMHANS
- Fund release through States

### Women Helpline

- Automation & integration with other helplines (Childline-1098 & ERSS-112)
- Forward linkages with OSCs

### Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

- Operations Manual developed – includes activity calendar for whole year
- Funds released through States
- Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav campaign in convergence with DoSEL

Work in progress on comprehensive Mission Shakti Dashboard

17

## Innovations / New Initiatives

### PMMVY

- Benefits in 2 installments instead of 3; in case of miscarriage/stillbirth, future pregnancy will be treated as fresh case
- ₹6000 in one installment for 2<sup>nd</sup> girl child
- Husband Aadhar details no longer required

### Shakti Sadan

- ₹ 500/- per month deposit in Jan Dhan account
- Increase in annual allocation for administrative and management cost

### Sakhi Niwas

- Funds provided for administrative and management cost
- Girls pursuing higher education and training now eligible
- Son upto 12 years/ Daughter upto 18 years permitted with mother

### Palna

- Anganwadi cum creches/ creches in government buildings in urban areas

18

Proposed Initiatives in 2023-24	
PMMVY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online application including Self-beneficiary registration</li> <li>• Verification of Aadhaar &amp; IFSC - Online application for quick disbursement of funds &amp; reduction in correction queue</li> </ul>
One Stop Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operationalization of 68 OSCs</li> <li>• Additional OSCs in bigger/crime prone districts</li> </ul>
Women Helpline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Functionalization of integrated helpline</li> </ul>
Nari Adalat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First phase launch in 1-2 States</li> </ul>
HEW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operationalization of Hubs at National/State/District levels</li> </ul>
Work in progress on comprehensive Mission Shakti Dashboard	

19

3.5.6 The Ministry has informed that the BE 2022-23 is Rs. 3184.11 crores, RE 2022-23 is Rs. 2279.93 crores and Actual expenditure as on 27.2.2023 is Rs. 1596.38 crores . The BE for 2023-24 is Rs. 3143.96 crores.

**3.5.7 The Committee appreciates that funds allocated under Mission Shakti have been increased by 38% in the budgeted estimates for 2023-24 as compared to revised estimates of 2022-23. The Committee also notes that a number of Sub-Schemes are part of Mission Shakti. The Committee recommends that the utilization trend under each sub-scheme be analyzed and the issues, leading to underutilization by States, identified for sharing with the States for them to take suitable measures for improving their utilisation.**

3.5.8 The Committee observes that Mission Shakti is an important scheme for empowering women. The Committee recommends that the Ministry should, in consultation with States, develop a mechanism for regular monitoring of fund utilization.

3.5.9 The Committee notes that Beti Bachao Beti Padhao is a flagship scheme of the government to end female foeticide and empower the adolescent girls which has shown promising results in recent past. The Committee appreciates the new initiative and innovation under the scheme such as Operational Manual that include activity calendar for whole year and Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav campaign in convergence with Department of School education and literacy. The Committee also appreciates that the scheme, has been expanded to all the districts and Ministry's efforts towards skilling girls in non-traditional

**livelihood activities. The Committee recommends that state should be encouraged to adopt innovative measures mentioned above in their women empowerment schemes for better outcome.**

### **3.6. SCHEMES FUNDED FROM NIRBHAYA FUND**

3.6.1 The Government of India had set up a dedicated non-lapsable fund called 'Nirbhaya Fund' in 2013 for implementation of initiatives aimed at enhancing the safety and security for women in the country. Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance is the custodian of the fund. The Empowered Committee (EC) chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development reviews the status of implementation of projects, and expenditure on approved projects from time to time in conjunction with the concerned Ministries/Departments/Implementing Agencies.

3.6.2 Further, the concerned Ministries/Departments/Implementing Agencies also monitor the progress of implementation at their levels. Upto the current financial year 2022-23, an amount of Rs.6712.85 Cr. has been provided under the Nirbhaya Fund. The details are as under:

**TABLE-XIX**

(Rs. in crore)

<b>FY</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>Total</b>
Allocation	550.00	550.00	1355.23	500.00	*500.00	6712.85
(Rs. crore)						

\*An amount of Rs.500.00 Cr. allocated to Ministry for the FY 2022-23.

3.6.3 As on date, a total number of 38 projects with total project cost of Rs. 9228.50 crore appraised by the EC, are under implementation including projects with recurring components. 14 projects are of Ministry of Home Affairs, 5 projects are of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, 3 projects are of Ministry of Railways and 12 projects are of Ministry of women and child development, one project each is being implemented by Department of Justice, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MEITY) and

Ministry of External Affairs. As per information received from Implementing Agencies (IAs), a total of Rs. 4738.14 crores have been released for these projects by the concerned Ministries/state governments.

3.6.4 Majority of the projects are being-implemented through State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations for which central Government releases the funds to State/UTs as per prescribed fund sharing pattern of respective projects/ schemes. Implementation on ground is done by the concerned States/UTs. The details of the projects appraised by EC for funding under Nirbhaya Fund, amount released and amount reported as utilized is given below. List of completed projects under Nirbhaya Fund is as under:



TABLE-XX

(Rs. in crore)

Ministries/ Department	Sl. No	Project Name	Fund appraised by EC	Fund released [as provided by Implementing Agencies (IAs.)]	Funds utilized as stated by IAs.
Ministry of Home Affairs	1.	Emergency Response Support system (ERSS)	321.69	364.03	364.03
	2.	Creation of Central Victim Compensation Fund (CVCF)	200.00	200.00	200.00
	3.	Proposal for providing facility of Social Workers/ Counsellors at the District and Sub-Divisional Police Station Level in Delhi	5.07	5.01	5.01
	4.	New building with women centric facilities for Special Unit for Women & Children (SPUWAC) and Special Unit for North East Region (SPUNER) at Nanakpura	23.53	21.35	21.35
	5.	Various other activities under Delhi Police 'Safety of Women' Scheme	10.20	9.96	9.96
	6.	Establishment of State of Art DNA Lab. at CFSL, Chandigarh	99.76	35.83	35.83
MeiTY/ IIT Delhi	7.	Development & Field Testing of panic Switch based safety Device for Cars and Buses for aiding Women's Safety	3.49	3.49	3.49
Ministry of Women and Child Development	8.	Mahila Police Volunteers (MPV)	27.76	16.32	<b>5.84 (closed)</b>
	9.	Nirbhaya Shelter Home, Govt. of Nagaland	2.84	2.55	2.55
	10.	NICSI for Developing Nirbhaya Dashboard	0.24	0.24	0.24
		<b>Total</b>	<b>694.58</b>	<b>658.78</b>	<b>648.3</b>

The List of ongoing projects under Nirbhaya Fund is as follows:

**TABLE-XXI**

(Rs. in crore)

Ministries/ Departments	Sl. No.	Project Name	Fund appraised by EC	Fund released [as provided by Implementing Agencies (IAs.)]	Funds utilized as stated by IAs.
Ministry of Home Affairs	11.	Cyber Crime Prevention against Women & Children (CCPWC)	195.83	154.55	154.55
		Sub-project under CCPWC	28.93		
	12.	Safe City Proposal for 8 Cities i.e. Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai	2919.55	1349.58	1349.58
	13.	Strengthening DNA analysis, cyber forensic & related facilities in SFSLs in 28 States/UTs i.e. Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Goa, Odisha, Puducherry, Jharkhand, Kerala, Karnataka, A&N Islands, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Haryana, Telangana and Uttarakhand	<b>235.90</b>	162.34	162.34
	14.	Setting up and strengthening Anti-Human Trafficking Units in all districts of States & UTs.	100.00	99.86	99.86
	15.	Setting up/ strengthening Women Help Desks in Police Stations in all States & UTs (covering 10,000 Police Stations).	100.00	157.49	157.49
	16.	Procurement of Forensic Kits for sexual Assault cases	7.09	32.18	32.18
17.	Training of Investigation Officers (IOs)/ Prosecution Officers (POs) through Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) for three years	7.50			

	18.	Training of Investigation Officers (IOs)/ Prosecution Officers (POs) through Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) in FY 2022-23	4.69		
Ministry of Railways	19.	Integrated Emergency Response Management System (IERMS)	500.00	300.82	<b>101.14</b>
	20.	Provision of Video Surveillance System at Konkan Railway Station	17.64	<b>17.64</b>	<b>13.61</b>
	21.	Proposal for procurement of Tabs for Security of Women	6.35	0	0
Department of Justice	22.	Setting up Fast Track Special Courts to dispose of cases pending trial under Rape & POCSO Act	767.25	<b>621.49</b>	<b>253.74</b>
		(Extension of the FTSCs for two more years upto FY 2021-22)	1687.95		
M/o Tourism	23.	Safe Tourism Destination for women in MP	27.98	6.24	0.00
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways	24.	Abhaya Project Proposal for safety of women and girl child, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh	138.49	58.64	7.79
	25.	Women's safety in public transport, UPSRTC, Govt. of U.P.	83.50	80.92	31.10
	26.	Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation, Govt. of Karnataka on Training women for heavy passengers vehicles	56.06	33.64	<b>16.42</b>
	27.	Proposal of C-DAC for customization, deployment and management of State-wise vehicle tracking platform	465.02	192.95	0.00
Ministry of Women and Child Development	28.	One Stop Centre (OSC)	867.74	720.98	274.53
	29.	Universalisation of Women Helpline (WHL)	155.94	79.02	54.08
	30.	Chirali Proposal, Women Empowerment Directorate	10.20	4.71	1.09
	31.	Smart and safe Cities Free from Violence against Women and Girls' Programme, Govt. of M.P.	1.74	1.04	0.36

	32.	Safety and Security of Women, Govt. of Uttarakhand	0.72	0.32	0.31
	33.	Proposal of Department of Information, MSME & Export Promotion, Govt. of UP: Mission Shakti for awareness and capacity building program for safety and empowerment of women and girls in industrial sectors	8.25	4.95	4.95
		<b>Total</b>	<b>8394.32</b>	<b>4079.36</b>	<b>2715.12</b>

Also the List of newly approved projects under Nirbhaya Fund is as under:

**TABLE-XXII**

(Rs. in crore)

Ministries/ Departments	Sl. No.	Project Name	Fund appraised by EC	Fund released [as provided by Implementing Agencies (IAs.)]	Funds utilized as stated by IAs.
Ministry of External Affairs	34.	Proposal for opening One Stop Centres (OSCs) in 10 Indian Missions abroad	40.79	0.00	0.00
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways	35.	Installation of Vehicles Tracking Devices with SOS button in Buses of TSRTC (Telangana State Road Transport Corporation) with monitoring from Central Command Control Centre	19.21	0.00	0.00
Ministry of Women and Child Development	36.	Scheme for critical care and support for accessing justice to rape / gang-rape survivors and minor girls who get pregnant	74.10	0.00	0.00
	37.	Installation of Storage boxes in the 16 Women markets in Manipur	3.55	0.00	0.00
	38.	Installation of CCTV cameras in 16 women markets in Manipur	1.95	0.00	0.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>139.6</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

3.6.5 The Ministry has informed that the major problem noticed during implementation of the projects under Nirbhaya Fund is related to delays in implementation of projects and utilisation of funds. The reason for the delays was attributed to various factors such as time taken for appraisal/ approval from SFC/EFC/ CFA etc, procedure to be followed for award of contract, coordination with various agencies etc. Delay by States/ UTs/ IAs in furnishing Statement of Expenditure (SoE) and/ or Utilization Certificates (UCs) for facilitating further release of funds also impact fund availability leading to slow progress. It has also been submitted that the Empowered Committee reviews the status of implementation of projects, and expenditure on approved projects from time to time in conjunction with the concerned Ministries/ Departments/ Implementing Agencies. Further, the concerned Ministries / Departments /Implementing Agencies also monitor the progress of implementation at their levels.

**3.6.6 The Committee observes that the funds has been utilized for establishing one stop centre, making safety devices, setting up fast-track courts and to procure forensic kits for sexual assault cases among others which help the security agency to curb the crime against women. The Committee also notes that emphasis on project features like optimum use of existing infrastructure and innovative use of technology have encouraged low-cost interventions oriented towards surveillance, reporting and investigation of crimes. Apart from focus on urban crimes in public spaces, the Committee, suggests that the guidelines governing the use of the Nirbhaya Fund should be broadened to incentivize interventions in areas, such as Community Policing in rural areas with an equal emphasis on psychological assistance to women victims and assistance for setting up women coaching centre for Police recruitment which will help aspiring women candidates to get selected in Police force and that will improve the representation of women in Police force especially in rural areas, which will eventually help to reduce crime against women and utilization of fund will also be improved. The Committee further recommends that the Empowered Committee should hold discussions with the concerned Officials of the state Governments to understand the ground reality and the aspects which are impacting utilization by states so that remedial action can be taken and projects can be fast paced in coordination with states lagging behind.**

**3.6.7 The Committee notes that the Ministry has mentioned factors such as delay by States/ UTs/ IAs in furnishing Statement of Expenditure (SoE) and/ or Utilization Certificates (UCs) for facilitating further release of funds also impact fund availability leading to slow progress.**

The Committee is of the view that in order to improve fund utilization status and usage of the Nirbhaya fund, sustained requisite action at State level is the need of the hour to bring about an appreciable impact on the safety and security of women and recommends for ensuring the same.

[

#### 4. VACANCY POSITIONS AND AUTOMONOUS BODIES

4.1 The Staff position in the Ministry including sanctioned strength, in position and vacancy as on 31.12.2022 is given below. This also indicates the group-wise and category-wise break of staff.

**TABLE-XXIII**

Group	Sanctioned Strength	In-position				Vacant
		Male (M)	Female (F)	3 <sup>rd</sup> gender	Total	
A	84*	45	21*	-	66*	18
B	112	41	21	-	62	50
C	73	15	7	-	22	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>119</b>

4.2 The Ministry has informed that for sanctioned Group A and B posts, Ministry of Women and Child Development (Proper Secretariat) does not fill vacancy of its own but gets vacancy filled up through Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Department of Official Languages (D/o OL). Regarding Group C Direct Recruitment category posts, only the posts of MTS are filled up by Ministry of WCD (Proper Secretariat) for which requisition has been sent to SSC. Other Group C vacant posts are filled up by DoPT and on deputation basis. Regular follow-up action for filling up vacancies with these concerned Cadres is taken up from time to time.

4.3 **CENTRAL ADOPTION RESOURCE AGENCY** : Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), a Statutory Body of the Government of India functions at the National level, as the nodal body for promoting and regulating adoption of Indian children. Some of the plans/programmes initiated by CARA since 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2018 till 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. , 2022 that have been informed are as under:

- (i) Implementation of Adoption Regulations, 2017 ;
- (ii) Revamping of online portal CARINGS;
- (iii) Facilitation of Inter-country Adoption under HAMA;
- (iv) Notification and implementation of Adoption Regulations, 2022;
- (v) Simultaneously, numbers of training and awareness programmes have been organized by CARA that can be fetched from CARA's Annual Report.

4.4 It has been informed that CARA Staff strength as on 31.12.2022 is as follows:

**Table-XXIV**

<b>Group</b>	<b>No. of Sanctioned Posts</b>	<b>In position</b>	<b>No. of Vacant Posts</b>
Group-A	21	13	8
Group-B	07	03	04
Group-C	09	06	03
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>

It has been informed that the tentative time to complete the process to fill-up above vacant posts is three months, through Promotion / Deputation.

**4.5 NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC COOPERATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (NIPCCD):** The National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, popularly known as NIPCCD, is devoted to promotion of voluntary action, research, training and documentation in the overall domain of women and child development.

The objectives of the Institute are to:

- i. Develop and promote voluntary action in social development;
- ii. Promote and develop relevant need-based programmes in pursuance of the National Policy for Children;
- iii. Evolve measures for coordinating between governmental action and voluntary action in social development;
- iv. Develop framework and perspective for organizing children's programmes through governmental and voluntary efforts; and

v. Establish liaison with international, National and regional agencies, research institutions, universities and technical bodies engaged in activities similar to those of the Institute.

The vision of NIPCCD is to be seen as an Institute of global repute in child rights, child protection and child development by developing partnerships and linkages with National and International agencies and making its training and research activities relevant to the needs of its varying stakeholders.

4.6 The staff strength as on 31.12.2022 of National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development is as under:

**TABLE-XXV**

<b>Groups</b>	<b>Sanctioned Strength of Work force</b>	<b>Persons in position</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
Group "A"	79	31	48
Group "B"	96	37	59
Group "C"	100	46	54
MTS	67	23	44
<b>Total</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>205</b>

4.7 The Ministry has informed that as on date only promotional posts are being filled. It has also been shared that action towards filling up the posts was initiated in the year 2018 but could not be completed due to administrative reasons and it had been decided to cancel the entire process of recruitment and that should be taken up a fresh as of now. Restructuring of NIPCCD is under way after which direct recruitment quota vacancies will be filled up.

4.8 **NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS (NCPCR):** The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), statutory body acts to protect, promote and defend child rights in the country. The detail of sanctioned posts of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) as on 31.12.2022 is as under:

**TABLE-XXVI**

<b>Classification of Posts</b>	<b>Number of posts sanctioned</b>	<b>Number of posts filled</b>	<b>Number of posts Vacant</b>
Group- 'A'	10	3	7
Group- 'B' Gazetted	3	1	2
Group- 'B' Non-Gazetted	10	1	9
Group- 'C'	5	0	5
Group- 'D'	10	3	7



<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>31</b>
--------------	-----------	----------	-----------

4.9 It has been informed that for filling up the vacant posts of Members in NCPCR, the Ministry had issued on 8th October, 2022 an advertisement in leading National, as well as, in Regional Newspapers inviting applications in the prescribed format for filling up the six vacant posts of Members, NCPCR in respective fields. The process has been completed and the names of the shortlisted candidates by the Selection Committee have been sent to DoPT on 14.02.2023 for taking approval of ACC. Approval of ACC has been received for three posts of Members in NCPCR, the gazette notification would be issued shortly. Information about the other posts lying vacant in NCPCR and the action being taken has also been shared.

4.10 **NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN(NCW):** NCW has a total of 42 sanctioned posts and the details of sanctioned Strength, in-position Strength and vacancies of work force are as under:

**TABLE-XXVII**

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Sanctioned Strength</b>	<b>In-position</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
1	Chairperson	1	1	-
2	Member	5	2	3
3	Member Secretary	1	0	1
4	Joint Secretary	1	1	-
5	Deputy Secretary	1	1	-
6	Under Secretary	2	2	-
7	Law Officer	1	0	1 (Under revival)
8	Pay and Account Officer	1	1	-
9	Senior Research Officer	1	1	-
<b>Group "B" Gazetted</b>				
10	Section Officer	1	1	-
11	Research Officer	1	0	1
12	Assistant Law Officer	1	1	-
13	Private Secretary	8	0	8
<b>Group "B"-Non Gazetted</b>				
14	Assistant	5	0	5 (Under abolition and revival/upgradation to Level-7)
15	Jr. Hindi Translator	1	0	1 (Under revival)
16	Personal Assistant	1	0	1

Sl. No	Post	Sanctioned Strength	In-position	Vacant
				(Under revival)
17	Research Assistant	4	0	4 (Under abolition and revival/upgradation to Level-7)
<b>Group-“C”</b>				
18	Junior Accountant	2	0	2 (Under revival)
19	Lower Divisional Clerk	4	1	3 (Under revival)
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>32</b>

4.11 It has been informed that in NCW there are 42 sanctioned posts out of which 06 posts are nominated by the Government of India (Chairperson and Members) , 02 posts are filled up by ACC ( Member Secretary and Joint Secretary). As regards the remaining 34 posts it has been mentioned that action to fill up vacancies against these posts through Deputation/ Advertisement is underway.

**4.12 The Committee notes the vacant posts against the sanctioned strength in the Ministry and in autonomous bodies like NCPCR, CARA, NCW, NIPPCD etc. and the steps being taken to fill up the vacancies appears promising. The Committee recommends that proper monitoring be done so that the vacant posts get filled in time bound manner at the earliest.**

## **OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE AT A GLANCE**

### **OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF THE DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2023-24) OF THE MINISTRY**

The Committee notes that the Ministry acts as the nodal ministry for the development of women and children, covering issues of welfare services, gender sensitization, and training for employment generation for women and many of the programmes run by the Ministry play a complementary role to developmental programmes in the sectors of health, education, rural development, and safety of women. The Committee appreciates that under BE 2023-24, the Ministry has been allocated Rs. 25,448.75 crores which translates to a 6% increase over the revised estimates of 2022-23.

(Para 2.7)

The Committee notes that the Ministry has utilized Rs. 17251.95 crores as on 27.02.2023 which is about 72.09% of the amount allocated under RE *i.e* Rs. 23912.69 crores. The Committee also recommends that the factors responsible for underutilization of funds by States/ bodies be identified and remedial action be taken in a time bound manner.

(Para 2.8)

The Committee also points out that the utilization of funds for different schemes varies from 70-71% of RE 2022-23. Noting that the Ministry has been allocated 92.7% of the projected demand, the Committee recommends that there is a need to encourage state governments to develop a robust mechanisms which can help push for enhanced fund utilization from the funds allocated. It is also noted by the Committee that funds utilisation out of the allocated amount to various organizations have been about 89.5% of the total allocated amount.

(Para 2.9)

The Committee recommends that it would be beneficial for the Ministry to prepare a Standard Operating Procedure towards each major Scheme with responsibilities, timelines and an in-built monitoring mechanism so that the progress of the Scheme and the progressive fund utilization by States can be systematically tracked. The Committee also

recommends that the factors responsible for underutilization of funds by States/ bodies be identified and remedial action be taken in a time bound manner.

(Para 2.10)

Noting the allocations under major Schemes, the Committee points out that as per BE 2023-24, Majority of the Ministry's total allocation distributed primarily amongst the three Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0 Scheme, Mission Shakti and Mission Vatsalya. Also, around Rs. 258 crores have been allocated amongst autonomous bodies such as National Commission for Women, Central Adoption Resource Authority, National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development and the National Commission for the Protection of Child's Rights. The Committee strongly feels that the Ministry implements some of the most important programmes in the country addressing the needs of women and young children and therefore enhanced budgetary allocations for the various Schemes of the Ministry would be helpful for further pushing its mandate.

(Para 2.11)

#### **SAKSHAM ANGANWADI & POSHAN 2.0**

The Committee notes that the Budgetary allocations, BE 2022-23 and RE 2022-23 in respect of Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 are same at Rs. 20263.07 crores. The actual spending as on 31.1.2023 is Rs 14842.32 crores. As for the BE 2023-24, the allocation for the Scheme is Rs. 20554.31 crores . The Committee appreciates the enhancement of Rs. 291 crores in the budget for Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0.

The Committee also reiterates its recommendation made in its 346<sup>th</sup> Report that a blueprint, prepared in consultation with States, towards infrastructure development and capacity building of AWCs will prove to be of immense help in identification and augmentation of various services and reach of AWCs.

(Para 3.1.15)

The Committee notes that the Ministry, on the aspect of finding avenues for CSR funds for building AWCs has stated that to raise alternative sources of funding, States may involve individuals, companies, and CSR funds for construction of AWCs purely on a probono basis without any obligations. The Committee is of the view that in order for CSR

**funds to flow into this social sector scheme, the Ministry would be required to formulate parametric guidelines with suitable incentives for corporates so that such sources of funding get enhanced. The Committee recommends that the Ministry may discuss the matter with States and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and take suitable measures towards this.**

**(Para 3.1.16)**

**The Committee noting the gap between sanctioned and operational Anganwadi Centers in various States recommends that the Ministry take up the matter with the respective States.**

**(Para 3.1.17)**

**The Committee recommends that the Ministry should point out to the respective State Administrations to take strong initiatives towards completion of construction of toilets and drinking water facilities at such AWCs where the same is missing.**

**The Committee recommends that the Ministry may consider setting up a suitable body which can take a look at the remuneration that is being paid both at Centre and at State levels to Anganwadi workers and recommend a base reasonable salary, with suitable increments, keeping in mind that it is a welfare programme.**

**(Para 3.1.18)**

**The Committee recommends that the Ministry make a thorough study through NIPCCD on the status and challenges being faced by AWCs, Anganwadi workers, and the States, based on which suitable follow up measures can be planned.**

**(Para 3.1.19)**

**The Committee notes with concern the vacant positions in AWCs at various levels. Noting that inadequate availability of Anganwadi workers/staff in AWCs has been a continuing area of concern, and as informed the filling up is done by States, the Committee is of the view that since the overall onus of successful and effective implementation of the Scheme lies with the States, it is incumbent upon them to address such vacancy gaps. The Committee recommends that the Ministry may write to each of the States where the vacancy positions are high for taking suitable measures to ensure that vacancies are filled up at the**

earliest and also seek a time schedule from them as to by when the vacancies are likely to be filled. The Status report based on inputs by States be shared with the Committee for its perusal.

(Para 3.1.20)

### **Poshan Abhiyaan**

The Committee while noting the above measures appreciates the technological interventions in collecting the data related to Anganwadi Services and Poshan Abhiyaan on real time basis. The Committee, accordingly, keeping in view the fact that since this Integrated Nutrition Support aims at improving the nutritional and health status in children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers and addresses the challenges of malnutrition, recommends that the Ministry must closely monitor the progress of the Scheme in the States and impress upon them to prioritize these welfare schemes so that benefits reach the needy.

(Para 3.2.15)

The Committee further states that the spread of Covid and subsequent lockdowns have made programmes like Poshan 2.0 even more important as the pandemic has brought serious economic and social welfare challenges for the country and especially for the economically weaker sections of the society. Thus, such nutritional programmes require a strong push. Besides enhanced budgetary support, successful implementation would require sustained monitoring and a combined multi-sectoral approach. State-specific time bound strategies which take into account various socioeconomic factors, sectors and dimensions of nutrition be also incorporated in the roadmap.

(Para 3.2.16)

### **Scheme for Adolescent Girls:**

The Committee noting the aims of the Scheme and its thrust on Adolescent Girls, recommends that aspects like awareness and promotion of Menstrual Hygiene, use and safe disposal of sanitary napkins, countering anemia, career guidance, Vocational skill based training and other such areas which confront girls at that stage of their life and

would be beneficial for their growth be suitably incorporated as components of the Scheme.

(Para 3.3.4)

#### **MISSION VATSALYA**

The Committee observes that it is common knowledge that there are states where there are either none or very few juvenile observation homes. Moreover the living conditions in a number of such juvenile homes are inadequate and require enhancement in terms of adequate space, quality of toilets, recreational activities, and trained staff. The Committee recommends that such issues be taken note of and remedial action be initiated so that the vulnerable children get proper support.

(Para 3.4.10)

#### **MISSION SHAKTI**

The Committee appreciates that funds allocated under Mission Shakti have been increased by 38% in the budgeted estimates for 2023-24 as compared to revised estimates of 2022-23. The Committee also notes that a number of Sub-Schemes are part of Mission Shakti. The Committee recommends that the utilization trend under each sub-scheme be analyzed and the issues, leading to underutilization by States, identified for sharing with the States for them to take suitable measures for improving their utilisation.

(Para 3.5.7)

The Committee observes that Mission Shakti is an important scheme for empowering women. The Committee recommends that the Ministry should, in consultation with States, develop a mechanism for regular monitoring of fund utilization.

(Para 3.5.8)

The Committee notes that Beti Bachao Beti Padhao is a flagship scheme of the government to end female foeticide and empower the adolescent girls which has shown promising results in recent past. The Committee appreciates the new initiative and innovation under the scheme such as Operational Manual that include activity calendar for whole year and Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav campaign in convergence with Department of School education and literacy. The Committee also appreciates that the scheme, has been expanded to all the districts and Ministry's efforts towards skilling girls in non-traditional livelihood activities.

**The Committee recommends that state should be encouraged to adopt innovative measures mentioned above in their women empowerment schemes for better outcome.**

**(Para 3.5.9)**

#### **SCHEMES FUNDED FROM NIRBHAYA FUND**

**The Committee observes that the funds has been utilized for establishing one stop centre, ,making safety devices, setting up fast-track courts and to procure forensic kits for sexual assault cases among others which help the security agency to curb the crime against women. The Committee also notes that emphasis on project features like optimum use of existing infrastructure and innovative use of technology have encouraged low-cost interventions oriented towards surveillance, reporting and investigation of crimes .Apart from focus on urban crimes in public spaces, the Committee, suggests that the guidelines governing the use of the Nirbhaya Fund should be broadened to incentivize interventions in areas, such as Community Policing in rural areas with an equal emphasis on psychological assistance to women victims and assistance for setting up women coaching centre for Police recruitment which will help aspiring women candidates to get selected in Police force and that will improve the representation of women in Police force especially in rural areas, which will eventually help to reduce crime against women and utilization of fund will also be improved. The Committee further recommends that the Empowered Committee should hold discussions with the concerned Officials of the state Governments to understand the ground reality and the aspects which are impacting utilization by states so that remedial action can be taken and projects can be fast paced in coordination with states lagging behind.**

**(Para 3.6.6)**

**The Committee notes that the Ministry has mentioned factors such as delay by States/ UTs/ IAs in furnishing Statement of Expenditure (SoE) and/ or Utilization Certificates (UCs) for facilitating further release of funds also impact fund availability leading to slow progress. The Committee is of the view that in order to improve fund utilization status and usage of the Nirbhaya fund, sustained requisite action at State level is the need of the hour to bring about an appreciable impact on the safety and security of women and recommends for ensuring the same.**

**(Para 3.6.7)**



## **VACANCY POSITIONS AND AUTOMONOUS BODIES**

**The Committee notes the vacant posts against the sanctioned strength in the Ministry and in autonomous bodies like NCPCR, CARA, NCW, NIPPCD etc. and the steps being taken to fill up the vacancies appears promising. The Committee recommends that proper monitoring be done so that the vacant posts get filled in time bound manner at the earliest.**

**(Para 4.12)**