



Poshan Abhiyan

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Why in News?

[Poshan Abhiyaan](#) aims to improve **nutritional outcomes** through **technology, cross-sectoral convergence, and community involvement**.

What is Poshan Abhiyan?

- **About:** It is a flagship **initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development**, launched on 8th March 2018 in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan. The program aims **to address the nutrition needs of adolescent girls, pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children (0-6 years)** through a targeted and convergent approach.





Beneficiaries
10,08,89,775



Children (0-6 Months)
47,53,831



Children (6 Months - 3 Years)
3,82,66,444



Children (3 - 6 Years)
4,49,14,794



Pregnant Women
55,41,417



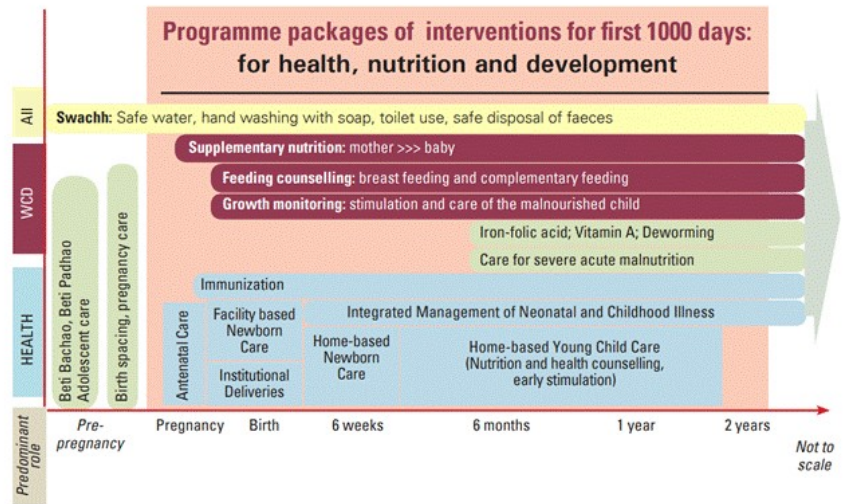
Lactating Mothers
51,28,483



Adolescent Girls
22,84,806

- **Objectives:** It aims to reduce **stunting, under-nutrition, [anaemia](#) (among young children, women and adolescent girls) and reduce low birth weight** by 2%, 2%, 3% and 2% per annum respectively
- **Strategic Pillars:** It operates through **four strategic pillars**:
 - **Quality Services:** Strengthens health services via [ICDS](#), [NHM](#), and [PMMVY](#), focusing on a child's first **1,000 days**.

Critical and Effective Interventions



- **Cross-Sectoral Convergence:** Integrates ministries like **Water & Sanitation** for holistic nutrition.
 - The **National Council on India's Nutrition Challenges**, led by **NITI Aayog**, guides policy and reviews nutrition convergence quarterly.
- **Technology:** Uses the **Poshan Tracker** for real-time data and monitoring and **ICDS-Common Application Software** to strengthen delivery of Anganwadi Services.
- **Jan Andolan:** Promotes **community-led nutrition awareness** and behavioral change.
- **Nutritional Improvement:** As per the **NFHS-5 (2019-21)** for children under 5 years.

Indicator	NFHS-4 (2015-16)	NFHS-5 (2019-21)
Wasting (Low weight-for-height)	21%	19.30%
Undernutrition (Low weight-for-age)	35.70%	32.10%
Stunting (Low height-for-age)	38.40%	35.50%

- **Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0:** It is also known as **Mission Poshan 2.0**, that fosters **health, wellness, and immunity** and infrastructure upgrades for **Anganwadi Centre (AWCs)** e.g., dedicated buildings, functional toilets, with drinking water access.

India's Nutritional Status as per Global Hunger Index 2024

India's GHI Indicators in 2024

Undernourishment

Improved food security in India

Child Stunting

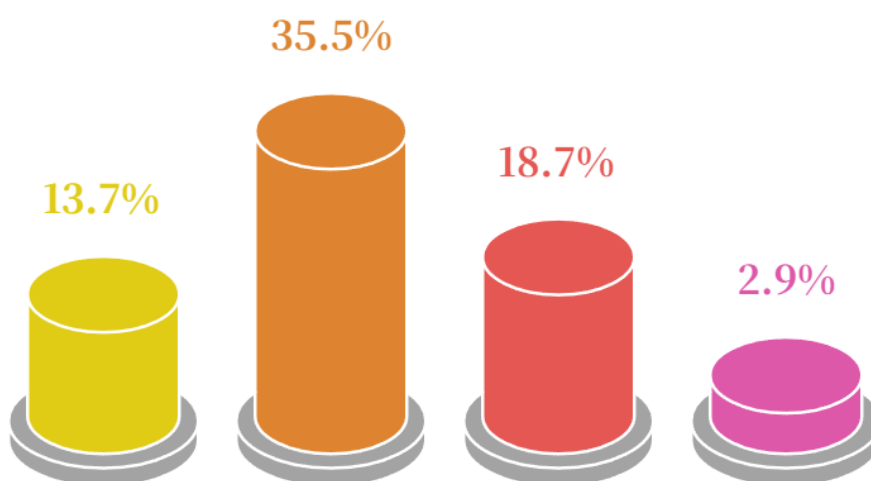
Long-term malnutrition unchanged

Child Wasting

Highest malnutrition rate globally

Child Mortality

Slight decrease in child deaths



UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

Prelims

Q. Which of the following are the objectives of 'National Nutrition Mission'? (2017)

1. To create awareness relating to malnutrition among pregnant women and lactating mothers.
2. To reduce the incidence of anaemia among young children, adolescent girls and women.
3. To promote the consumption of millets, coarse cereals and unpolished rice.
4. To promote the consumption of poultry eggs.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 3 and 4 only

Ans: (a)

Q. Which of the following is/are the indicator/indicators used by IFPRI to compute the Global Hunger Index Report? (2016)

1. Undernourishment
2. Child stunting

3. Child mortality

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) 1 and 3 only

Ans: (c)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/poshan-abhiyan-1>

