



Connecting



which dots,



what systems,



whose choices?



- P. Sainath



The humble tumbler





GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

LAW AND JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT

Maharashtra Act No. XL of 1963

**THE MAHARASHTRA DELETION OF THE TERM
"FAMINE" (FROM LAWS APPLICABLE
TO THE STATE) ACT, 1969**

(As modified upto the 31st October 2012)



MAHARASHTRA ACT No. XL OF 1963¹

**[THE MAHARASHTRA DELETION OF THE TERM "FAMINE" (FROM LAWS
APPLICABLE TO THE STATE) ACT, 1963]**

[11TH NOVEMBER 1963]

**An Act to delete the term "famine" from all laws in the
State of Maharashtra.**

WHEREAS, the Agricultural situation in the State is constantly watched by the State Government, and relief measures as warranted by the situation are provided as soon as signs of scarcity conditions are apparent, so that there is now no scope for famine conditions to develop;

AND WHEREAS the term "famine" in the Bombay State
Famine Relief Fund Act, 1958 and other laws on the subject in
their application to the State has now become obsolete, and
requires therefore to be deleted therefrom; It is hereby enacted
in the Fourteenth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Maharashtra Deletion of the
Term "famine" (From Laws applicable to the State) Act, 1963.

Short title.

Bom.
LXX-
XIII
of
1958.

2. From the commencement of this Act, in the All enactments relating to any of the matters enumerated in Lists II and III in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, in their application to the State of Maharashtra (hereinafter referred to as "State Laws"), and in all instruments and other documents, the word "famine" shall be deemed to have been deleted.

Amendments of enactments, etc., for deletion of references to "famine".

3. (1) The enactment specified in column 1 of the Schedule is hereby amended in the manner, and to the extent, shown in column 2 thereof

Amendments of Bom. LXXXIII of 1958 and power to adopt other State laws by notification.

(2) Before the expiration of one year from the commencement of this Act, the State Government may, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, delete the work "famine" from any State law and where the context requires, substitute for the work "famine" the word "scarcity" and make such consequential amendments as the rules of grammar may require.

¹For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see *Maharashtra Government Gazette*, 1963, Part V, pages 198.

As we leave, he clasps my hands tightly and, asking me to wait a moment as he wants to give me something, disappears into his little abode. There he picks up a small vessel, opens a pot and dips it in. Then he steps out and gives me a cup of fresh milk. When I've had that, he clasps my hands again, tightly, his eyes moist with tears.



Ganpati Yadav's gripping life cycle

He's a freedom fighter, a farmer, a family man – and a cyclist extraordinary at the age of 97. Ganapati Yadav, a courier with Toofan Sena (Whirlwind Army) *in Satara* carried messages and meals to revolutionaries hiding in the forests.

Sangli farmers: milked by private players

Unable to recover production costs due to the private sector's control over milk prices, dairy farmers like Arun Jadhav in western Maharashtra are selling their livestock

The animals often go through an unproductive phase that lasts 4-5 months. "We have to tend to it nonetheless," he says. "Buffalo milk is sold at 35 rupees per litre. But buffaloes don't give more than six litres of milk per day." The price fluctuations were making Bharat anxious, so he does not sell milk anymore. "I had four buffaloes. I sold them all at throwaway prices two years ago."



“Milk consumption and its frequency is positively associated with a child’s height provided it is an endogenous variable. Policies that strengthen affordability, availability, and awareness towards milk consumption would reduce large disparities in child stunting in India and improve its abysmally low global ranking.”

Viswanathan, B., Purohit, D. (2024). Milk Consumption Pattern of Young Children: A Relook at the Indian Evidence. In: Dev, S.M., Ganesh-Kumar, A., Pandey, V.L. (eds) Achieving Zero Hunger in India. India Studies in Business and Economics. Springer, Singapore.

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-99-4413-2_6



Original Investigation | Global Health

Prevalence of Children Aged 6 to 23 Months Who Did Not Consume Animal Milk, Formula, or Solid or Semisolid Food During the Last 24 Hours Across Low- and Middle-Income Countries

Omar Karlsson, PhD; Rocki Kim, ScD; S. V. Subramanian, PhD

Abstract

IMPORTANCE The introduction of solid or semisolid foods alongside breast milk plays a vital role in meeting nutritional requirements during early childhood, which is crucial for child growth and development. Understanding the prevalence of zero-food children (defined for research purposes as children aged 6 to 23 months who did not consume animal milk, formula, or solid or semisolid food during the last 24 hours) is essential for targeted interventions to improve feeding practices.

OBJECTIVE To estimate the percentage of zero-food children in 92 low- and middle-income countries.

DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS This cross-sectional study analyzed nationally representative cross-sectional household data of children aged 6 to 23 months from the Demographic and Health Surveys and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys conducted between May 20, 2010, and January 27, 2022. Data were obtained from 92 low- and middle-income countries. Standardized procedures were followed to ensure data comparability and reliability. Both percentage and number of zero-food children were estimated.

MAIN OUTCOMES AND MEASURES The outcome studied was defined as a binary variable indicating children aged 6 to 23 months who had not been fed any animal milk, formula, or solid or semisolid foods during the 24 hours before each survey, as reported by the mother or caretaker.

Key Points

Question What is the prevalence of zero-food children (ie, children who did not consume any animal milk, formula, or solid or semisolid food during the last 24 hours) across 92 low- and middle-income countries?

Findings In this cross-sectional study of 276 379 children aged 6 to 23 months in 92 low- and middle-income countries, 10.4% were zero-food children, ranging from 0.1% in Costa Rica to 21.8% in Guinea.

Meaning The high prevalence of zero-food children in some countries suggests a need for targeted interventions to improve infant and young child feeding practices to ensure optimal nutrition during a critical period of development.

In a study (published in 2024) calculating the prevalence of children aged 6-23 months who have not eaten anything over a 24-hour period, across 92 low- and middle-income countries (LMIC), India ranks the 3rd highest country with 19.3%

In absolute numbers the country has the highest number of zero-food children, at 6.7 million, representing almost half of the total number from the 92 countries in the study

Zero-food children are the ones who did not consume any animal milk, formula or solid or semisolid food during the last 24 hours.

Over 400,000 Indian farmers have taken their own lives since 1995, says the official figures, from the National Crime Records Bureau.

Even the officials collating the data are aware that these are severe underestimates

Major groups – like for instance Women, Dalit and Adivasi farmers – tend to be largely excluded from the official lists

Even by these massaged numbers, one farmer dies by suicide every hour in India

In the decade 2001 to 2011 the official data show us that one farmer died by suicide every 30 minutes

After 2014, the methodology of the data collection has been changed so drastically, that no comparisons with data before those years is possible





A giant leap: Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran serving food to a girl to mark the inauguration of the noon-meal scheme at Pappakurichi near Tiruchi on July 1, 1982. The scheme covered children aged 2-10. | Photo Credit: The Hindu Archives

SCHOOL

STOP! THERE'S
POLITICS IN
OUR FOOD...



MGR's Midday Nutritious Meal Scheme: A shrewd political move?

Last July, Tamil Nadu's flamboyant Chief Minister MGR started a Rs 150-crore project of providing midday meals to the underfed children of his state through several thousand centres. Today his Midday Nutritious Meal Scheme provides free lunches for over 68 lakh children. The scheme is probably the shrewdest political move of the matinee idol-turned-politician.



ETV Bharat / Bharat

UNICEF praises TN gov't's free breakfast scheme in schools

The recent launch of the free breakfast scheme at schools launched by the Tamil Nadu government was discussed with UNICEF's Child Welfare Officer Gayatri Singh.




The mid-day meal



Kynja has three sisters and one brother – she is the third child. She studies in the nursery class at the *anganwadi* centre in Khrang, implemented under the Integrated **Child Development Services scheme** of the government of India. The 15-year-old *anganwadi* is run by a single teacher, Teresa Shabong, for the last seven years.

Kynja's day at the *anganwadi*



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Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao launches the two rupees a kg rice scheme at a fair price shop in Secunderabad on January 1, 1995. Picture also shows his wife Lakshmi Parvati, son-in-law D. Venkateswara Rao and Minister Butchaiah Chowdary. | Photo Credit: PTI



If all the sacks of grain lying in the FCI godowns were lined up in a row, they would stretch for a million kilometres – more than twice the distance from the earth to the moon.

When millions of people are undernourished, if not starving, hoarding food on this scale – at an enormous cost – seems tantamount to mass murder.

-- Jean Drèze

Small meal, big deal for hungry students

The mid-day meal for kids in zilla parishad schools in Maharashtra lessens the load on families subsisting on limited rations. But the state's budget for the food is meagre, as are its salaries for meal workers



Rise in price of toor dal to affect midday meal scheme?

Updated - March 07, 2015 05:44 am IST
- Mysuru:

SHANKAR BENNUR



Schools have been advised to look for alternative foodgrains in case of delay in supply of toor dal.— PHOTO: M.A. SRIRAM



KASHAYA
PĀTRA
Unlimited food for education

NG
DS
R-FI

☰ THE HINDU

No onion, no garlic midday meals: Nutrition institute stands by its report

Fruits, vegetables can be used interchangeably, notes the report

Updated - July 15, 2019 04:21 pm IST - NEW DELHI

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

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This case was developed by the World Bank Institute (WBI) with the support of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), and edited by **Michael Jarvis** (WBI) and **Bérangère Magarinos** (GAIN). Case development benefited from in depth inputs from the staffs of Britannia Industries Ltd., the Naandi Foundation and GAIN. The contribution of all parties is most gratefully acknowledged.

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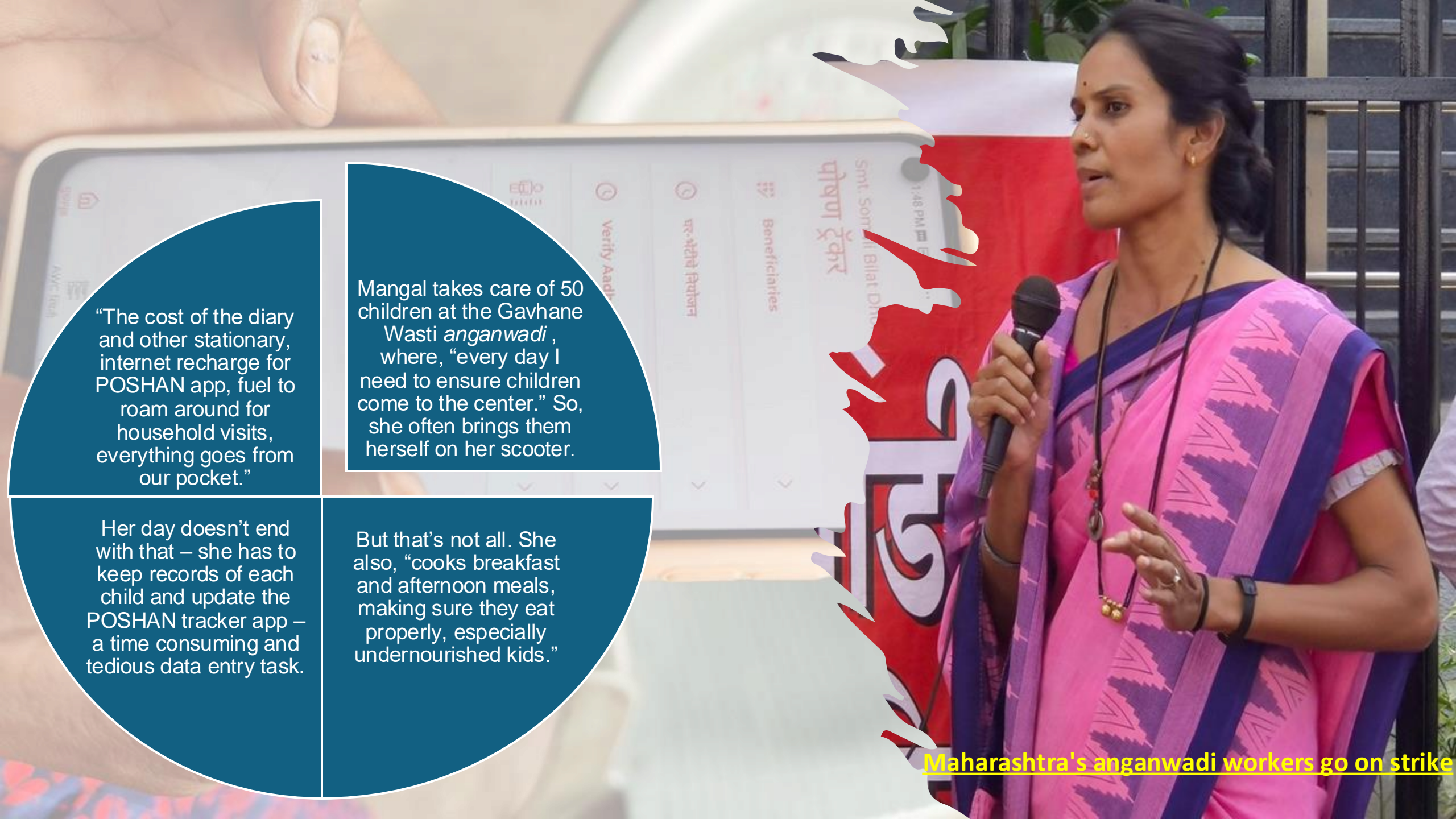
Britannia, Naandi and GAIN: A Public-Private Partnership for Delivering Nutrition through Fortification in India

“Addressing hunger does not necessarily always mean addressing nutrition.”

—Rohini Mukherjee, Naandi Foundation

IT WAS EARLY November 2007, and Anurada Narasimhan, Britannia’s category manager, headed down the hall to meet with Neeraj Chandra, vice president of Marketing, Sales and Innovation, and PP Roy, head of Research and Development (R&D). CEO Vinita Bali was leaving to attend a World Bank Institute-sponsored conference in Washington, D.C., in a few hours and putting the final touches to her presentation on Britannia’s food fortification efforts. Britannia had partnered with the Naandi Foundation to bring iron-fortified biscuits to 150,000 children in the Indian state

funding had been committed for 18 months, this was not a sustainable approach for the long term. Naandi also continued to search for other sustainable ways to provide critically needed nutrients to India’s poorest children. The biscuits had been a popular addition to the noon-time meal, but they had to be purchased and distributed alongside the cooked meal. It was expensive and added an extra step; was there a way to fortify the more elemental ingredients in the lunch meals? In India’s wheat-eating regions, iron fortification had made significant strides; rice, however, was difficult to fortify effectively. Those parts of India that relied on rice for a major portion of their diet risked falling further behind in terms of nutrition through fortification efforts.



“The cost of the diary and other stationary, internet recharge for POSHAN app, fuel to roam around for household visits, everything goes from our pocket.”

Mangal takes care of 50 children at the Gavhane Wasti *anganwadi*, where, “every day I need to ensure children come to the center.” So, she often brings them herself on her scooter.

Her day doesn't end with that – she has to keep records of each child and update the POSHAN tracker app – a time consuming and tedious data entry task.

But that's not all. She also, “cooks breakfast and afternoon meals, making sure they eat properly, especially undernourished kids.”

Maharashtra's anganwadi workers go on strike



Children bear the load

High infant mortality is a big problem of such work in agriculture. A study in Maharashtra showed that this is the period which sees the highest number of miscarriages and infant deaths. Prolonged squatting sparks off strains and stresses that often lead to premature births.



Women agricultural workers are caught up in a cycle of repeated pregnancies and high infant mortality, which further devastates their health. Large numbers die during pregnancy and childbirth.



The prevalence of anaemia among women between the age of 14-59 years in India increased from 53.2 % (2015-16) to 58.9% (2019-21)

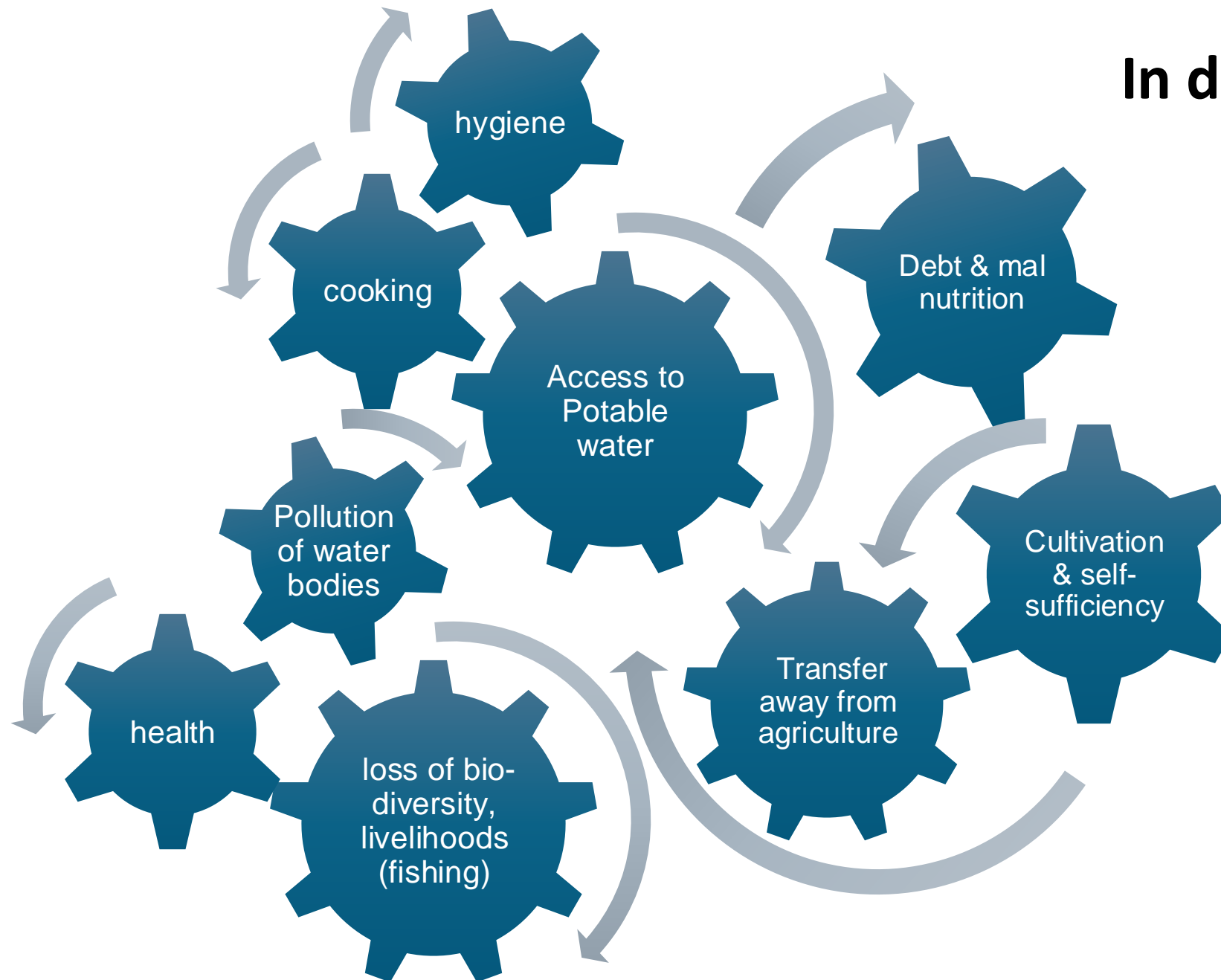
As per NFHS-5 (2019-21),
Anaemia among women is **on the rise**



With a healthy diet costing around Rs. 243 in India as of 2020, as high as 973.3 million people in India cannot afford a healthy diet.

Unsurprising, women rank low on the scale for resource allocation – in their homes and beyond.

In deep waters



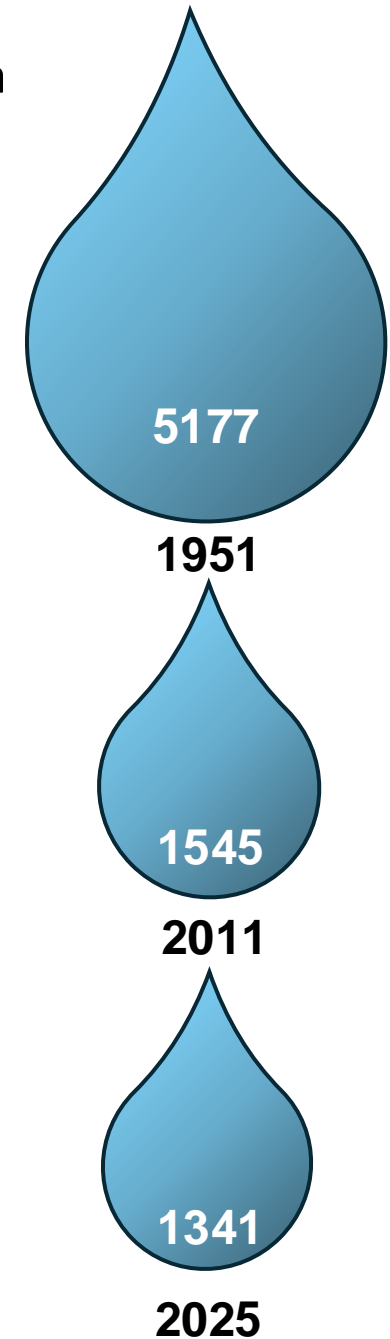




Per Capita Availability of water has decreased from 5177 cubic meters in 1951 to a projected 1341 cubic meters in 2015

Water flows upwards:

From poor to rich
From rural to urban
From agriculture to industry
From livelihood to lifestyle
From food crop to cash crop
Virtual water transfers





The Inheritance of inequality

*Someone has certainly
swallowed
our share of light,
for we keep burning
ourselves out along
with the sun
for a lifetime
and still nothing ever
gets
illuminated*

Vaiesinh Pargi: a life in letters and
worse

Inequality: the growing gaps



The **cumulative wealth** of India's **200 dollar billionaires** (Forbes) is **974 billion USD**

Indian budget expenditure for 2023-24 was ₹ 45 lakh crore (**562 billion USD**)

Source:

[https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/budget2023-24/doc/Budget at Glance/bag6.pdf](https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/budget2023-24/doc/Budget%20at%20Glance/bag6.pdf)

Budget expenditure in PPP adjusted dollars: 1.9 trillion

8

भारत सरकार का व्यय
Expenditure of Government of India

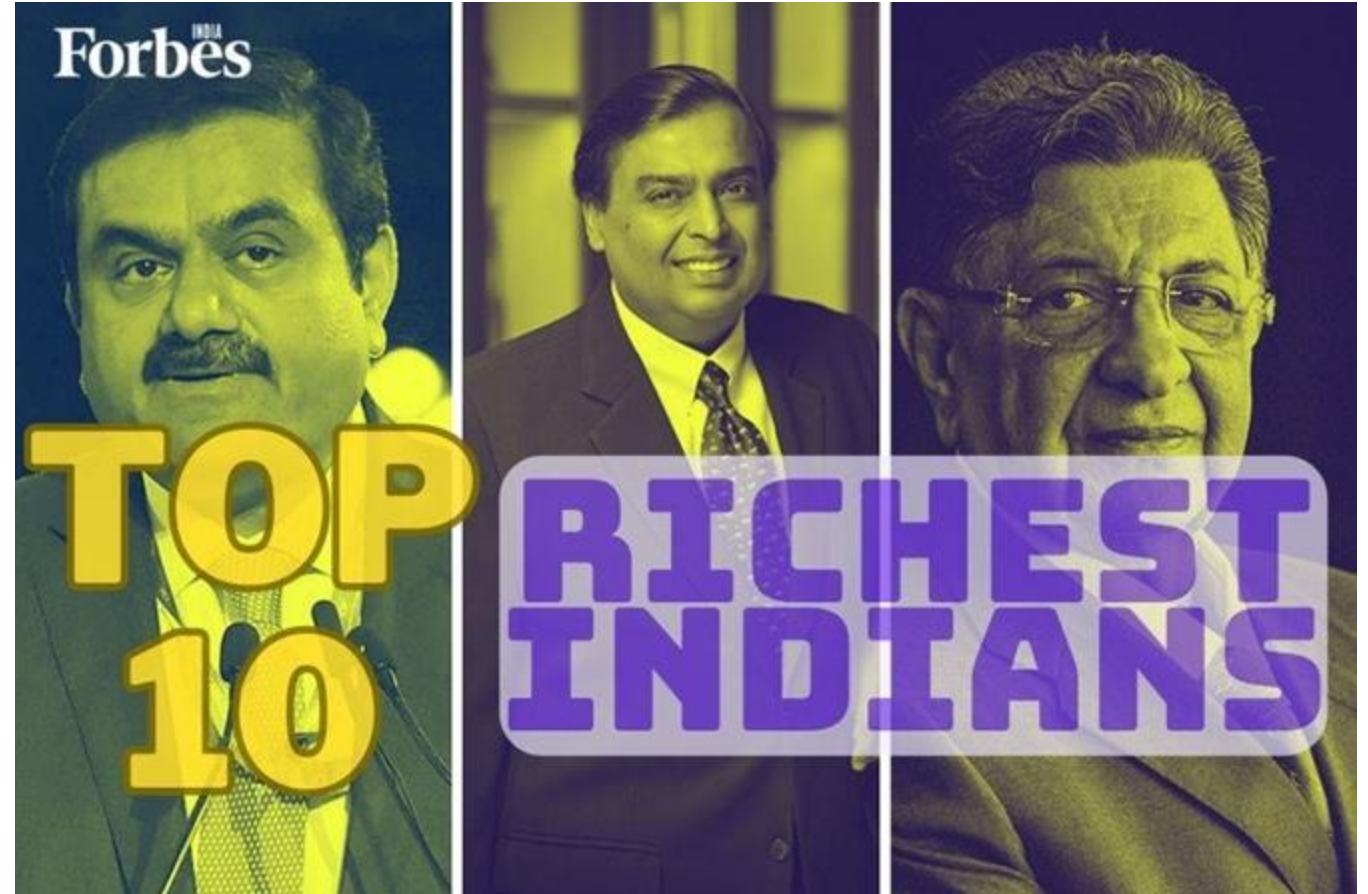
(₹ करोड़) (In ₹ crore)

		2021-2022 वास्तविक Actuals	2022-2023 बजट अनुमान Budget Estimates	2022-2023 संशोधित अनुमान Revised Estimates	2023-2024 बजट अनुमान Budget Estimates
क. केंद्र का व्यय	A. Centre's Expenditure				
I स्थापना व्यय	I Establishment Expenditure	693272	692214	734619	744339
II केंद्रीय क्षेत्र की योजनाएं/परियोजनाएं	II Central Sector Schemes/Projects	1209950	1181084	1411729	1467880
III केंद्रीय क्षेत्र का अन्य व्यय	III Other Central Sector Expenditure	1010748	1132813	1136588	1301542
जिसमें से ब्याज भुगतान	of which Interest Payments	805499	940651	940651	1079971
ख. अंतरण	B. Transfers				
IV केंद्रीय प्रायोजित योजनाएं	IV Centrally Sponsored Schemes	454366	442781	451901	476105
V वित्त आयोग के अनुदान	V Finance Commission Grants	207435	192108	173257	165480
VI अन्य अनुदान/ऋण/अंतरण	VI Other Grants/Loans/Transfers	218031	303908	279138	347752
कुल जोड़	Grand Total	3793801	3944909	4187232	4503097

सरकार का प्रभावी पूंजीगत व्यय

That cumulative wealth of our **200 dollar billionaires** of **974 billion USD** is **1.7 times the Indian budget's expenditure** and **62 times India's agricultural budget** of 1.25 lakh crore rupees or **15.62 billion US dollars**

Agri budget in PPT adjusted dollars: 42.5 billion



Ministry of Women and Child Development and Vedanta sign MoU to build 4000 'next generation' Anganwadis

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Vedanta to develop and modernise 4000 Anganwadis in the country.

Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India and Mr. Mayank Ashar, Managing Director and CEO, Cairn India signed the MoU in New Delhi today, to develop these 'next generation' Anganwadis.

Speaking on the signing of the MOU, Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development, Shri V. Somasundaran, said "We are planning to modernize the Anganwadis and revamp these as enablers that will not only provide supplementary nutrition and basic healthcare services in villages but also function as a place to mobilize the village women to increase their participation in community development."

In his message, Shri Anil Agarwal, Chairman, Vedanta said, "We are happy to associate with Ministry of Women & Child Development for setting up model Anganwadis. These modern Anganwadis will provide a better environment to the children of India. Healthy children and empowered women will eradicate poverty and malnutrition, and make a prosperous nation. It is our privilege to partner with the Government in this initiative, especially, since it aligns with our honourable Prime Minister's vision to provide quality education to children and skill development to women across the country."

Vedanta will build the 'next generation' Anganwadi centres, for which they will commits Rs 400cr. These anganwadi centres will be built in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh among others. These model Anganwadis will be built in clusters of 25-30 in a particular district with multifunctional capabilities. The land for the Anganwadis will be provided by the Gram Panchayats.

As part of our nutrition initiatives and with the support of contributions received, healthy millet nutri-bars and protein millet shakes have been distributed to children across multiple Nand Ghars throughout the country.

Your donation will further our mission to provide nutrition supplements to the children of Nand Ghar across India.

Nand Ghar services including nutrition are currently transforming the lives of:

 **240000**
Children

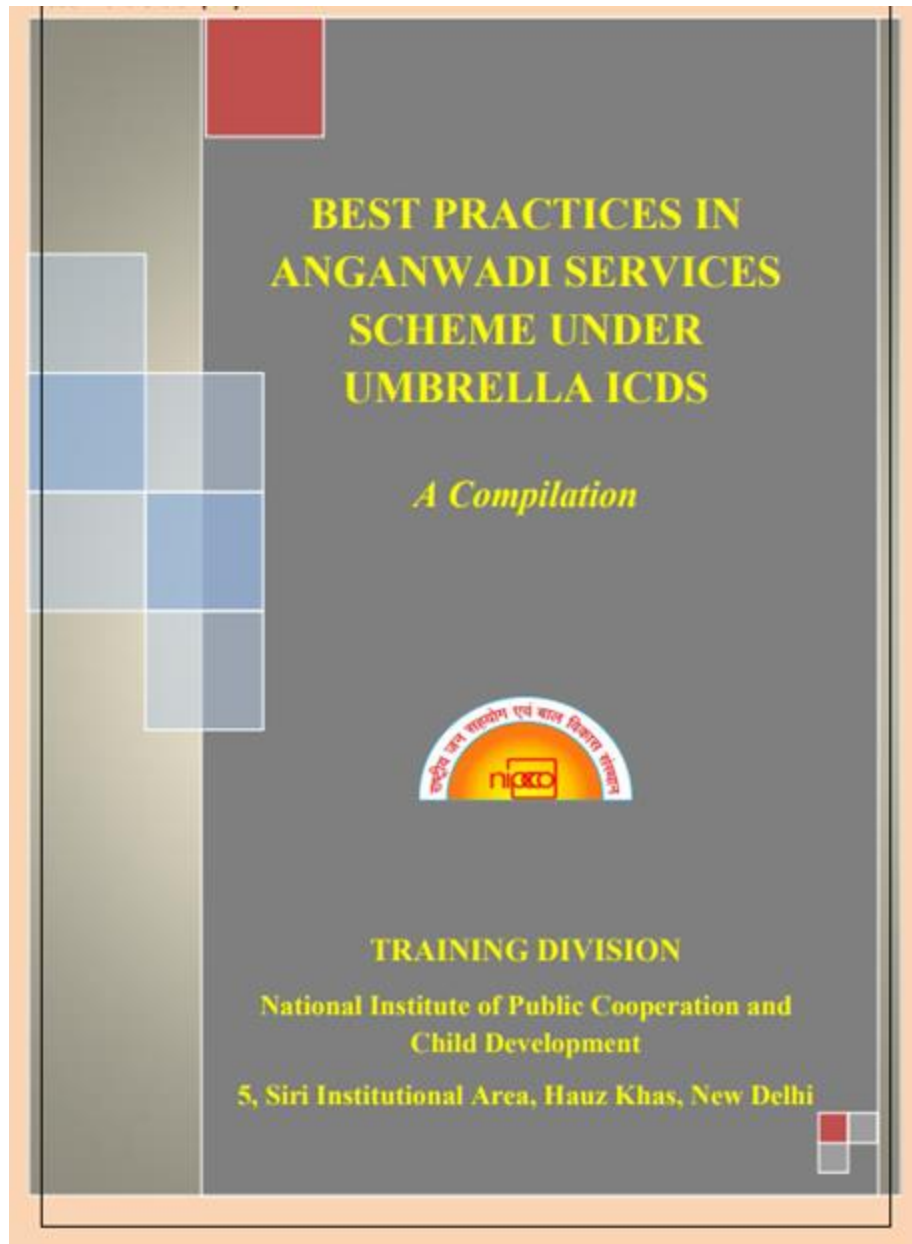
 **190000**
Women

 **6363**
Nand Ghars



"Aamchi Anganwadi" A Shining Example of CSR Initiative by employees of Adani Electricity

FPJ Bureau Updated: Friday, July 26, 2024, 03:54 PM IST



As many as 1,303 Anganwadi Centres have been constructed under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the country till **June 2020**, informed Smriti Zubin Irani, Minister of Women and Child Development during the ongoing parliament session.

There are a total of 13.83 Lakh operational Anganwadi Centres in India. Out of which, 1,303 AWC buildings have been completed under CSR, as on June 30, 2020.