

BUDGET INSIGHTS

VOL 1/ISSUE 2

Trends in Finances for the Ministry of
Women and Child Development

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29 July 2024

KEY HIGHLIGHTS



In FY 24-25 Budget Estimates (BEs), allocations for the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) stood at ₹26,092 crore, increasing by 2.5 per cent from the previous year.



Mission Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0 is the largest Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), constituting 82 per cent of Ministry's CSS allocation in FY 24-25 BEs. In FY 24-25 BEs, ₹21,200 crore is allocated to the scheme, lower by 2 per cent from previous year's allocation. In FY 23-24, ₹21,523 crore was allocated, lower than the projected demand by ₹766 crore.



Allocation for Mission Shakti, the second largest scheme of MWCD, is ₹3,146 crore in FY 24-25 BEs, a marginal increase of 0.06 per cent from previous year's BEs. In FY 23-24, ₹2,326 crore was allocated, lower than the projected demand by ₹1,063 crore.



In FY 22-23, Mission POSHAN 2.0 utilised 98 per cent of its allocations which stood at ₹20,263 crore. Mission Shakti, on the other hand, utilised ₹60 crore more than its allocated amount of ₹2,280 crore in the same year.

KEY POLICY ANNOUNCEMENTS



In her Budget Speech for FY 24-25 BEs, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman reiterated the government's commitment to women, among the poor, youth, and farmer¹.



To improve women's workforce participation, Working Women Hostels, or Sakhi Niwas, will be set-up in collaboration with the industry.



More than ₹3 lakh crore has been allocated for promoting 'women-led development' which includes schemes for women and girls.

Suggested citation

Rana, T., Kapur, A., and Pandey, S., (2024), Trends in Finances for the Ministry of Women and Child Development, *Budget Insights 2024-25*, Volume 1, Issue 2, Foundation for Responsive Governance, New Delhi. 29 July 2024.

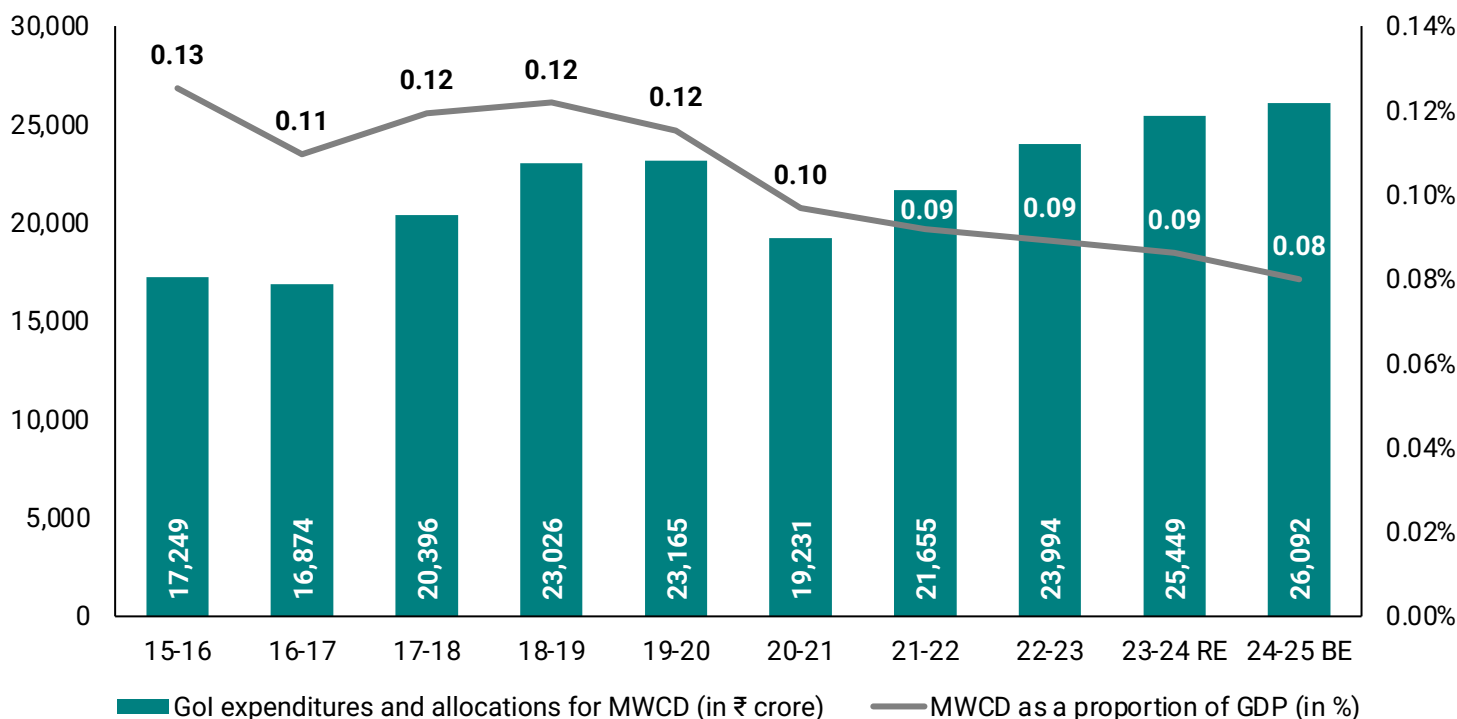
OVERVIEW

According to Census 2011, women and children constituted 68 per cent of the country's population². The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) caters to women, children (0-6 years), and adolescent girls through its several initiatives, including schemes, policies, laws, among others.

This brief examines the trends in the Government of India's (Gol's) financing for MWCD.

- In FY 24-25 Budget Estimates (BEs), the allocation for MWCD stood at ₹26,092 crore. This was a 2.5 per cent increase over both FY 23-24 Revised Estimates (REs) and BEs, which stood at ₹25,449 crore each.
- As a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), MWCD's expenditures (Actuals), or Gol releases to states and Union Territories (UTs), have been decreasing over the years. Expenditures, as a proportion of GDP, declined from 0.13 per cent in FY 15-16 to 0.09 per cent in FY 22-23. In FY 24-25 BEs, they stood at 0.08 per cent.

Figure 1: MWCD Financial Trends and Share of GDP

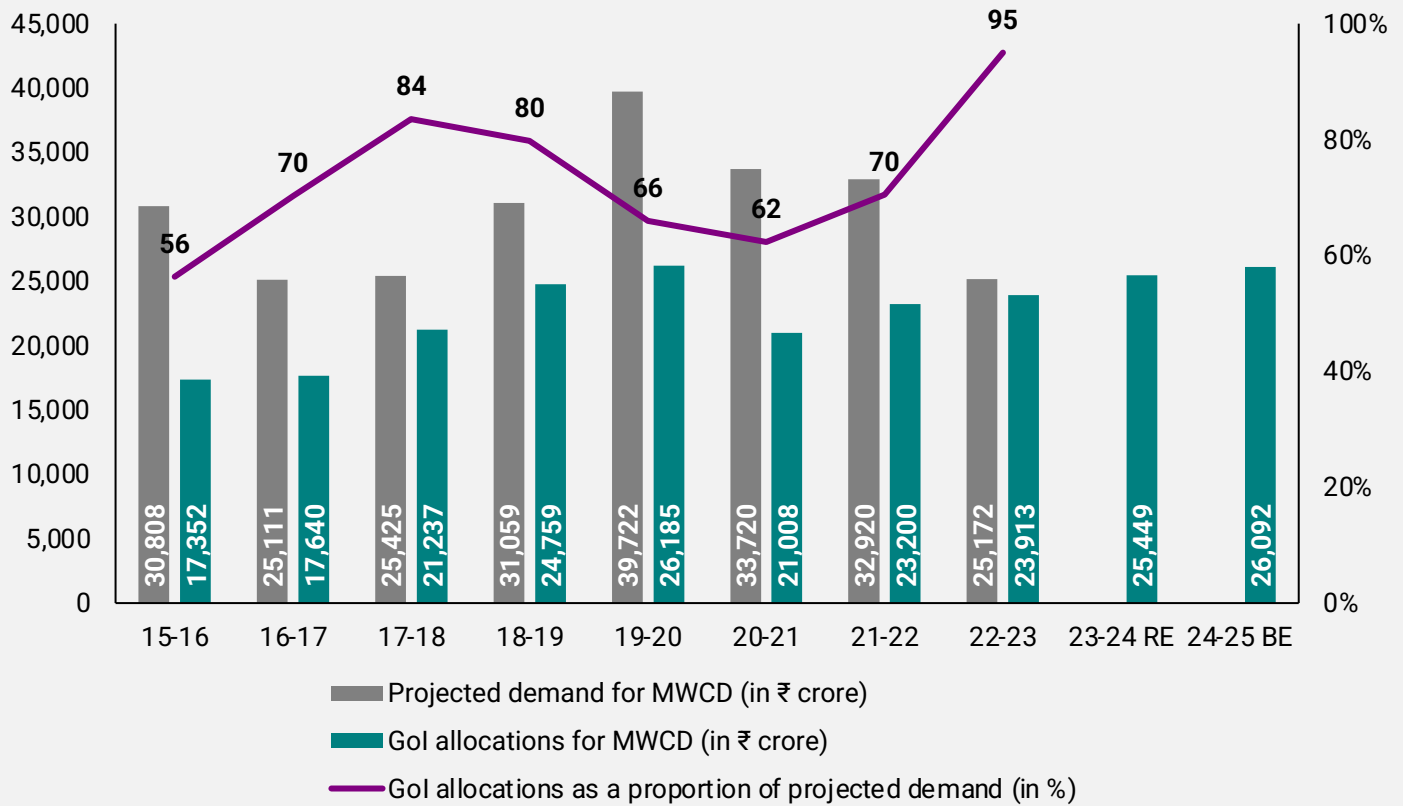


Source: (1) Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 17-18 to FY 24-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. (2) Annual and Quarterly Estimates of GDP at current prices, 2011-12 series, MoSPI. Available online at: <https://www.mospi.gov.in/data>. (3) Budget at a Glance, Union Budget 2024-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>. Last accessed on 23 July 2024.

Note: Figures till FY 22-23 are Actuals. Expenditures reflect Gol releases to states and UTs.

- There were variations in MWCD's allocations and projected demand over the years. Allocations were 56 per cent of projected demand in FY 15-16, increasing to 84 per cent in FY 17-18, but decreasing to 62 per cent in FY 20-21. In FY 22-23, 95 per cent of the Ministry's projected demand was met.

Figure 2: Proportion of MWCD Allocations out of Projected Demand

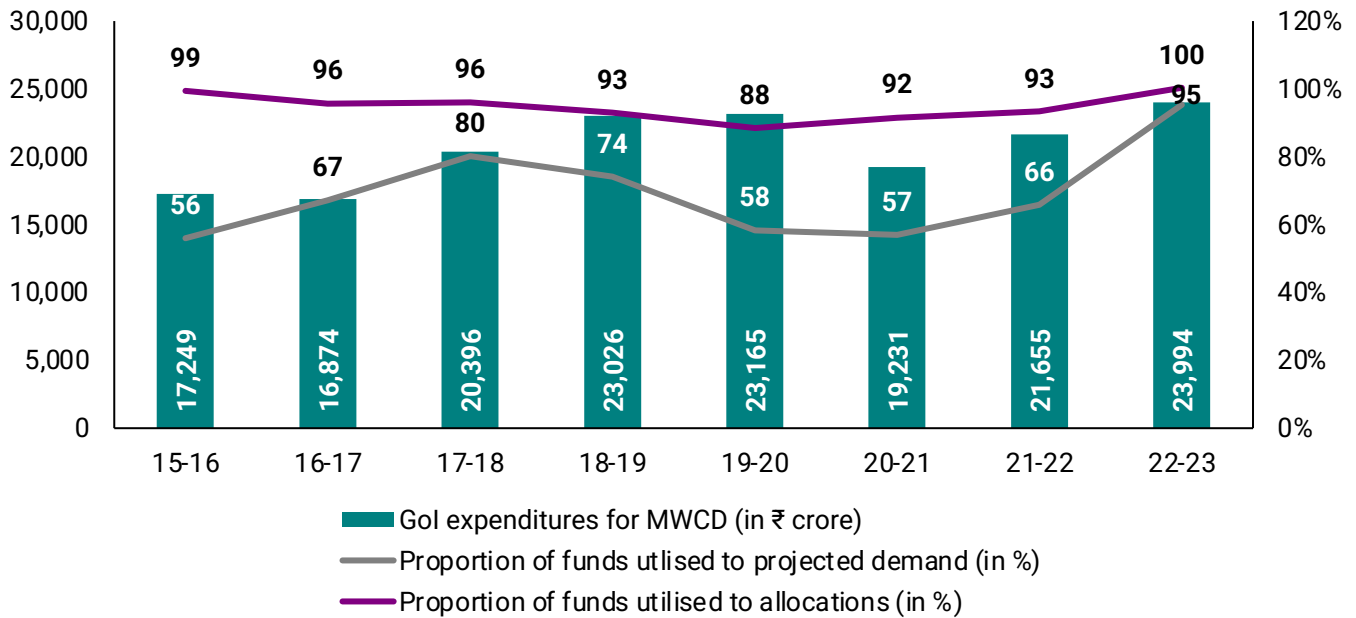


Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 17-18 to FY 24-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. Last accessed on 23 July 2024.

Note: Figures till FY 23-24 are REs and FY 24-25 are BEs.

- Between FY 15-16 and FY 22-23, expenditures of MWCD have grown at 4 per cent on average. In FY 22-23, ₹23,994 crore was spent, compared to ₹17,249 crore spent in FY 15-16.
- As a proportion of total GoI allocations for MWCD, utilisations showed a declining trend till FY 19-20. Proportion of allocations utilised decreased from 99 per cent in FY 15-16 to 88 per cent in FY 19-20. However, with the decline in allocations since FY 20-21, the proportion of funds utilised increased to 92 per cent in FY 20-21 and 93 per cent in FY 21-22.
- The 338th Demand for Grants for MWCD Report by the Parliamentary Committee in 2022 had noted that under-utilisation of funds was because of implementation challenges faced during the COVID-19 pandemic³.
- In FY 22-23, all allocations were utilised.

Figure 3: Proportion of MWCD Expenditures out of Allocations



Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 17-18 to FY 24-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. Last accessed on 23 July 2024.

Note: All figures are Actuals (or expenditures). Calculation of proportion of funds allocated refer to the ratio between Actuals and REs. Expenditures reflect Gol releases to states and UTs.

HOW DOES THE MWCD ALLOCATE?

Gol finances for MWCD can be classified into three components:



Establishment Expenditure (EE)

are the costs incurred for the maintenance and operation of government offices and institutions.



Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs)

are schemes such as the Mission Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0 implemented by state governments, with funding shared, with states in a 60:40 ratio for large states and 90:10 for hilly and north-eastern states.



Other Central Sector Expenditure (OCE)

are centrally funded and implemented schemes. This consist of specific initiatives, projects managed by autonomous bodies, central agencies, and spending on statutory bodies, and public sector undertakings. Under OCE, MWCD allocates for Autonomous Bodies such as Central Adoption Resource Agency, National Commission for the Protection of Child's Rights, among others.

- Over the years, CSSs have constituted the majority share of MWCD allocations at approximately 99 per cent. In FY 24-25 BEs, out of total Gol allocations for MWCD, CSSs received ₹25,848 crore, followed by OCE (₹160 crore) and EE (₹84 crore).

MAJOR AREAS OF ALLOCATION: KEY CSSs

- Several CSSs have been reconstituted and renamed over the years. For instance, in FY 17-18, the National Nutrition Mission was renamed to Poshan Abhiyaan and the Maternity Benefit Programme was renamed to Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY).

MWCD has three flagship CSSs



Mission Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0 (hereafter, Mission POSHAN 2.0) for providing Anganwadi infrastructure and promoting positive maternal and child health and nutrition outcomes;



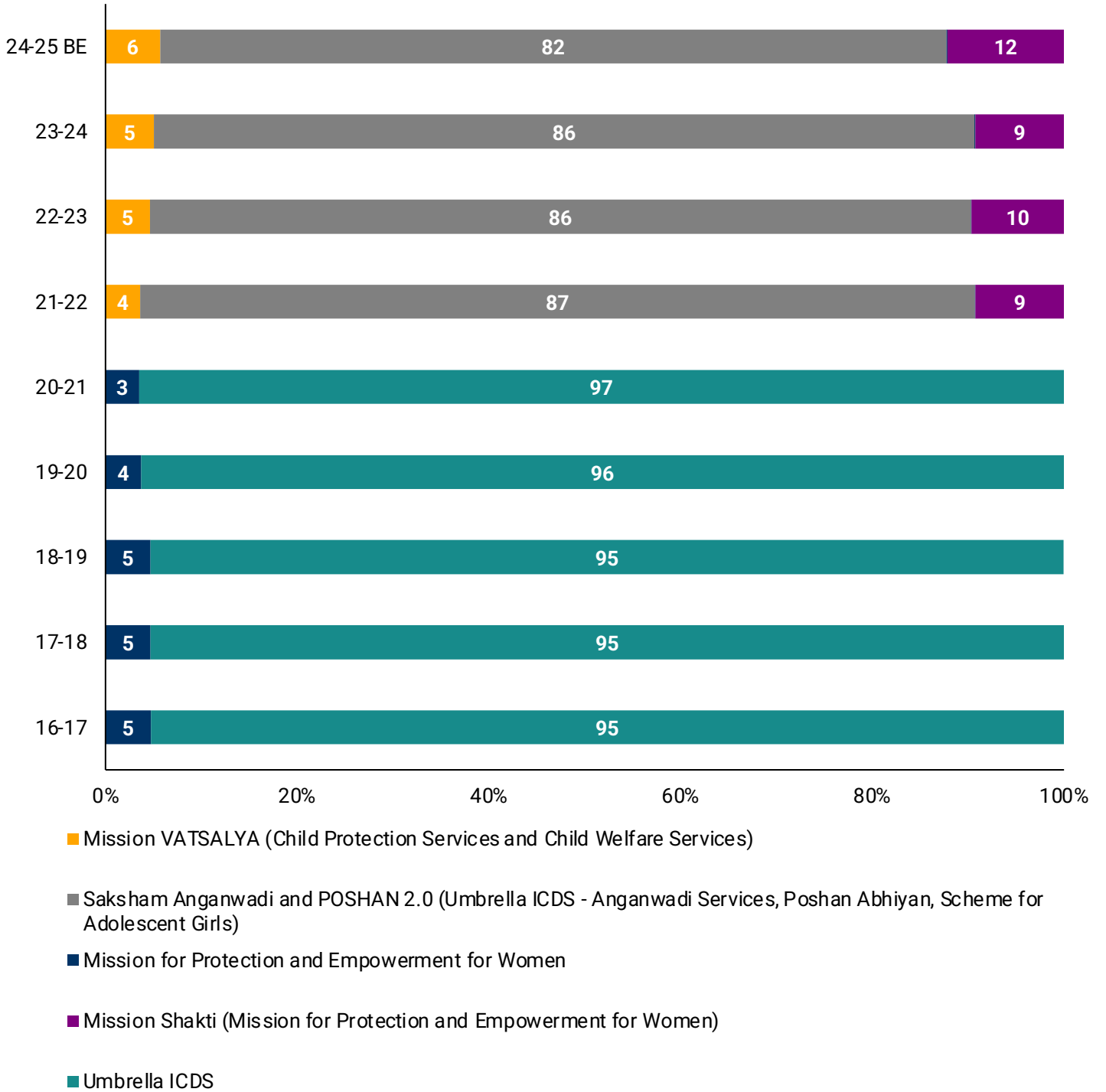
Mission Shakti for women's empowerment and safety; and



Mission VATSALYA for providing institutional and non-institutional child protection and welfare services.

- Since FY 21-22, standalone sub-schemes were reconstituted under the Mission POSHAN 2.0 (erstwhile Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)); Mission Shakti (erstwhile Mission for the Protection and Empowerment of Women (MPEW)); and Mission VATSALYA which included the erstwhile Child Protection Services (CPS) and Child Welfare Services (CWS) sub-schemes. CPS and CWS were previously under the Umbrella ICDS.
- Between FY 16-17 and FY 20-21, Umbrella ICDS constituted the majority share of total CSS allocations, followed by MPEW. Allocations for Umbrella ICDS, as a proportion of total CSS allocations, increased by 2 percentage points from 95 per cent in FY 16-17 to 97 per cent in FY 20-21, while the corresponding share of MPEW schemes decreased.
- Similarly, between FY 21-22 and FY 24-25 BEs, Mission POSHAN 2.0 constituted the majority share of total CSS allocations, followed by the Mission Shakti and Mission VATSALYA.
- The share of allocations for Mission POSHAN 2.0, however, has been decreasing over the years. As previously mentioned, while CPS and CWS were reconstituted as a separate flagship scheme, PMMVY was reconstituted under Mission Shakti. Because of this exercise, the corresponding share of both Mission Shakti and Mission VATSALYA has been increasing.
- In FY 24-25 BEs, Mission POSHAN 2.0 constituted 82 per cent of GoI allocations for MWCD's CSSs, while Mission Shakti and Mission VATSALYA were 12 per cent and 6 per cent of overall allocations, respectively.

Figure 4: Distribution of CSSs (in %)



Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 17-18 to FY 24-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. Last accessed on 23 July 2024.

Note: Figures till FY 23-24 are REs and FY 24-25 are BEs.

DEEP DIVE INTO KEY SCHEMES

MISSION SAKSHAM ANGANWADI AND POSHAN 2.0

Mission POSHAN 2.0 aims to redress the challenges identified with Umbrella ICDS and its sub-schemes, including inadequate nutrition quality and delivery, weak community ownership, poor implementation, the absence of an integrated approach to nutrition security, and an insufficient focus on diet diversity, traditional wisdom in nutrition practices, and behaviour change. The breakup of sub-schemes under Umbrella ICDS and Mission POSHAN 2.0 are highlighted in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Sub-schemes reconstituted from Umbrella ICDS to Mission POSHAN 2.0

Umbrella ICDS	Mission POSHAN 2.0
Anganwadi Services and Scheme for Adolescent Girls	Supplementary Nutrition Programme for children (0-6 years), pregnant women and lactating mothers, and adolescent girls (14-18 years)
	Early Childhood Care and Education
	Anganwadi Infrastructure (including upgraded Saksham Anganwadis)
National Nutrition Mission	Poshan Abhiyaan
Scheme for welfare of working children in need of care and protection	
PMMVY	
Child Protection Services	
National Creche Scheme	

The five-year roadmap for Mission POSHAN 2.0 is as follows⁴:

- In the short term (6-12 months), the Mission hopes to focus on Aadhaar seeding of eligible citizens, resource readiness of Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), governance including setting up of District Nutrition Committees and Poshan Panchayats, promoting dietary diversity, and robust data management.
- In the medium term (1-3 years), the scheme plans to strengthen convergence, frontline worker capacity, diet diversity through Poshan Vatikas, and Behaviour Change Communication campaigns.
- In the long term (3-5 years), the Mission aims to upgrade 2 lakh AWCs as Saksham Anganwadis and construct *pucca* AWCs in lieu of *semi-pucca* and rented AWCs and foster proactive community ownership of the programme.

According to the Poshan Tracker, as on 30 June 2024, more than 10 crore eligible citizens were covered under the scheme. The breakup is in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Coverage under Mission POSHAN 2.0

Type of Eligible Citizens	Number of Eligible Citizens
Pregnant Women	69,00,842
Lactating Mothers	43,20,149
Children (0–6 months)	38,14,761
Children (6 months–3 years)	4,08,93,347
Children (3–6 years)	4,44,65,374
Total	10,03,94,473

Source: Poshan Tracker Statistics. Available online at: <https://www.poshantracker.in/statistics>. Last accessed on 24 July 2024.

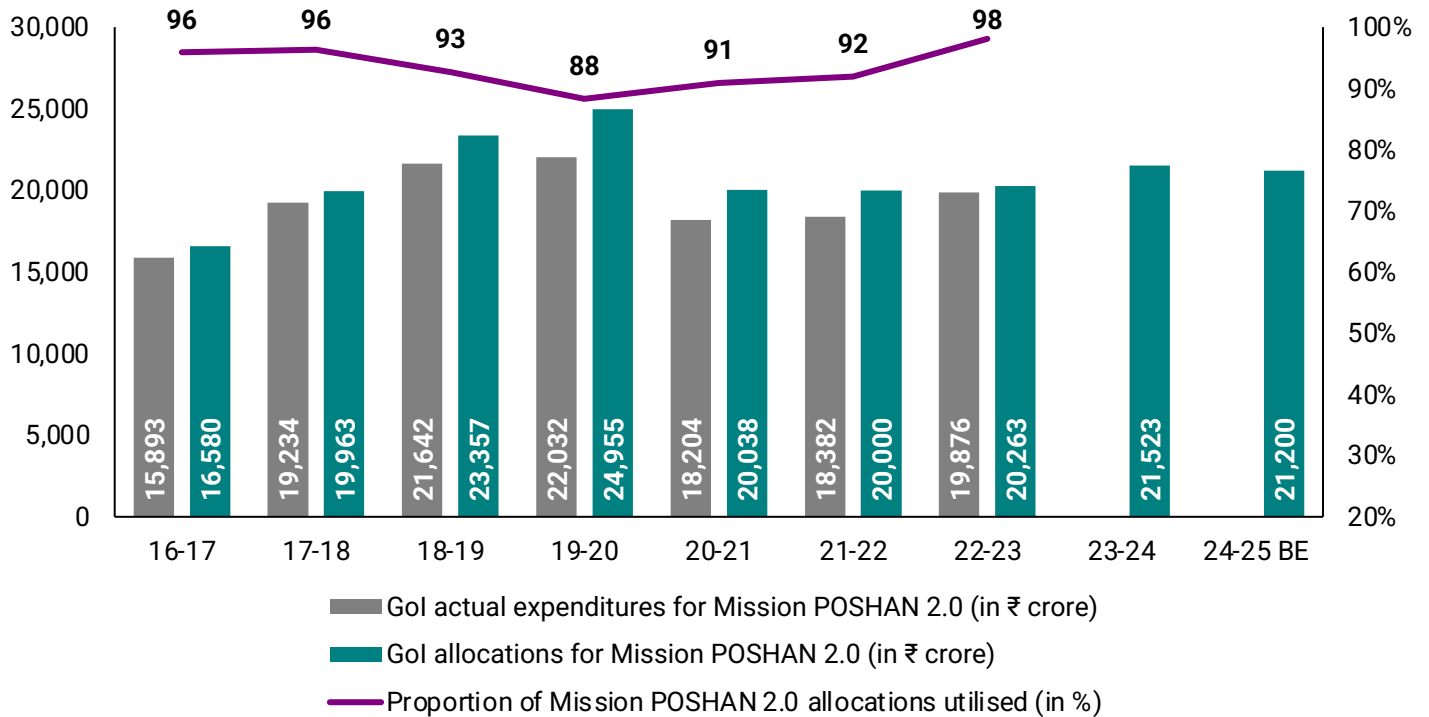
Note: Data on coverage is as on 30 June 2024. Coverage for adolescent girls was not available.

Across states and UTs, as on 30 June 2024, there were over 13,99,244 active AWCs with 13,34,993 Anganwadi Workers.

Trends in Allocations and Expenditures

- Before FY 21-22, the sub-schemes under Mission POSHAN 2.0 were displayed as separate budget line items. After the reconstitution and renaming exercise of Umbrella ICDS in FY 21-22, sub-schemes are not displayed as such.
- Allocations under the scheme have grown at a slow pace. In FY 24-25 BEs, ₹21,200 crore was allocated to the scheme, lower than the previous year's allocation by ₹323 crore.
- The projected demand for funds for Mission POSHAN 2.0 have also decreased in recent years. In FY 20-21, while the amount demanded was ₹32,135 crore, allocations were 38 per cent lower at ₹20,038 crore. Similarly, the projected demand was 26 per cent lower by ₹6,930 crore in FY 21-22. In FY 23-24, allocations were ₹766 crore lower than the projected demand.
- Utilisation of funds under the scheme have remained over 90 per cent for all years except FY 19-20. Since FY 21-22, the first year of the reconstituted scheme, a total quantum of ₹18,382 crore was utilised. Utilisation was 98 per cent in FY 22-23.
- In FY 23-24 BEs, while ₹20,554 was allocated, REs reduced by 5 per cent to ₹21,523 crore.

Figure 5: Allocations and Expenditures for Mission POSHAN 2.0



Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 17-18 to FY 24-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. Last accessed on 23 July 2024.

Note: Allocation figures till FY 23-24 are REs and 2024-25 are BEs. Allocations and expenditures till FY 20-21 were under Umbrella ICDS. Expenditures reflect Gol releases to states and UTs.

The next section looks at past trends of sub-schemes under erstwhile Umbrella ICDS which were subsumed under Mission POSHAN 2.0.

PAST TRENDS IN SUBSUMED SUB-SCHEMES OF ERSTWHILE UMBRELLA ICDS

- As indicated **Table 1**, Umbrella ICDS and its sub-schemes were reconstituted as Mission POSHAN 2.0.
- Between FY 16-17 and FY 20-21, expenditures and allocations, respectively, grew at a pace of 3 per cent and 5 per cent on average.
- Trends in allocations and expenditures for Umbrella ICDS sub-schemes show variations.
- The largest sub-scheme of Umbrella ICDS was Anganwadi Services. In FY 16-17, of the total allocations (₹14,561 crore) for Anganwadi Services, ₹14,433 crore (99 per cent) was spent. By FY 20-21, while both allocations and expenditures increased in absolute terms; as a share of allocations, funds utilised fell to 91 per cent.

- Under National Nutrition Mission, except for FY 16-17 when expenditures at ₹199 crore exceeded allocations of ₹175 crore, spending as a proportion of allocations has been declining. In FY 17-18, 94 per cent of allocated funds were spent. This decreased to 55 per cent in FY 19-20 and rose marginally to 68 per cent in FY 20-21. However, between FY 16-17 to FY 20-21, the quantum of fund allocated has been increasing at 45 per cent on average.
- For PMMVY, allocations grew at 14 per cent on average. Proportion of allocations spent increased from 79 per cent in FY 17-18 to 97 per cent in FY 19-20. In FY 20-21, 86 per cent of the allocations had been spent.
- On the other hand, sub-schemes such as the National Creche Scheme and Scheme for Adolescent Girls, respectively, witnessed their allocations decrease, on average, at 39 per cent and 43 per cent, respectively. The same trend was reflected in their expenditures. By FY 20-21, the National Creche Scheme spent ₹12 crore, compared to ₹125 crore in FY 16-17. Similarly, expenditure for the Scheme for Adolescent Girls decreased from ₹482 crore in FY 16-17 to ₹41 crore in FY 20-21.

Table 3: Allocations and Expenditures for Umbrella ICDS Sub-schemes (in ₹ crore)

Year	Type	Anganwadi Services (Erstwhile Core ICDS)	Child Protection Services	National Creche Scheme	Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana	Scheme for Adolescent Girls	Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection	National Nutrition Mission
16-17	Expenditure	14,433	577	125	75	482	2	199
	Allocation	14,561	598	150	634	460	3	175
	% Funds Utilised	99	97	83	12	105	78	114
17-18	Expenditure	15,155	638	49	2,048	451	0	893
	Allocation	15,245	648	65	2,595	460	0	950
	% Funds Utilised	99	98	75	79	98	0	94
18-19	Expenditure	16,815	916	30	1,055	205	0	2,622
	Allocation	17,890	925	30	1,200	250	0	3,061
	% Funds Utilised	94	99	99	88	82	0	86
19-20	Expenditure	16,894	866	48	2,239	105	0	1,880
	Allocation	17,705	1,350	50	2,300	150	0	3,400
	% Funds Utilised	95	64	96	97	70	0	55
20-21	Expenditure	15,784	847	12	1,112	41	0	408
	Allocation	17,252	821	15	1,300	50	0	600
	% Funds Utilised	91	103	77	86	82	0	68

Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 17-18 to FY 20-21. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. Last accessed on 9 July 2024.

Note: Allocation figures are REs. Expenditures reflect Gol releases to states and UTs.

- Consequently, between FY 16-17 and FY 20-21, there were changes in the proportional share for each scheme. For instance, the share of allocations for Anganwadi Services decreased from 88 per cent in FY 16-17 to 86 per cent in FY 20-21.
- On the other hand, while the proportional share of the National Nutrition Mission, increased from 1 per cent in FY 16-17 to 14 per cent in FY 2019-20, it reduced to 3 per cent in FY 20-21.

Key Progress Indicators

- Since the scheme's inception in FY 21-22, there have been several developments in achieving the scheme's target.
- As per Mission POSHAN 2.0 guidelines, it is necessary for eligible citizens to be linked and verified for Aadhaar to avail scheme benefits, except children who may use mother's Aadhaar card.
- According to the Poshan Tracker, as on 30 June, over 98 per cent of eligible citizens were Aadhaar verified. The Tracker also suggests that 96 per cent of the total children enrolled between 0-6 years underwent growth monitoring⁵.
- In terms of their nutritional status, 35 per cent and 17 per cent children, respectively, were severely/moderately stunted and underweight.
- The 359th Action Taken Report of the Recommendations on Demand for Grants for MWCD by the Parliamentary Committee noted that a comprehensive study by the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development should be conducted for understanding the challenges faced by AWCs and Anganwadi Workers and improving their capacities and livelihoods⁶. They also indicated that MWCD should empower states with high vacancies through technological and digital interventions along with financial assistance.

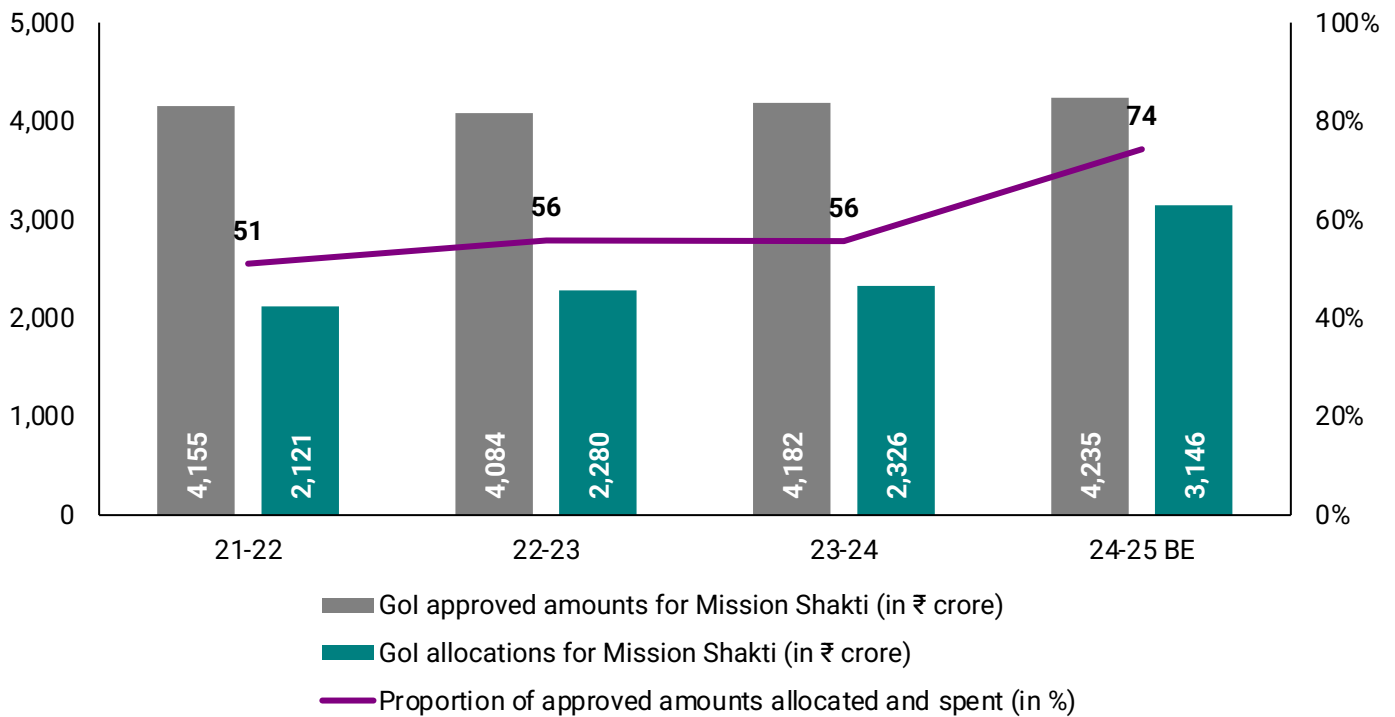
MISSION SHAKTI

Like Mission POSHAN 2.0, MPEW was reconstituted and renamed in FY 21-22 to Mission Shakti, subsuming the erstwhile sub-schemes under it. Mission Shakti has two sub-schemes – Sambal and Samarthya, respectively, which cater to women’s safety and security, and empowerment. The erstwhile sub-schemes under MPEW were reconstituted as components within the Mission Shakti sub-schemes.

Trends in Allocations and Expenditures

- Mission Shakti is the second largest CSS of the MWCD. Since FY 21-22, budget line items are disaggregated only at the level of Mission Shakti’s sub-schemes – Sambal and Samarthya. The components within, however, are not reflected (same as Mission POSHAN 2.0).
- Allocations, however, remain lower than the amount approved. For Mission Shakti, ₹20,990 crore has been approved till FY 25-26. Out of this, Gol’s share is 75 per cent, or ₹15,762 crore. Costs have been assigned for sub-schemes and their components till FY 25-26.
- In FY 21-22, 51 per cent of the approved amount (₹4,155 crore) was allocated. This increased to 56 per cent in FY 23-24 and further to 74 per cent in FY 24-25 BEs.

Figure 6: Share of Approved Amounts Allocated by Gol for Mission Shakti

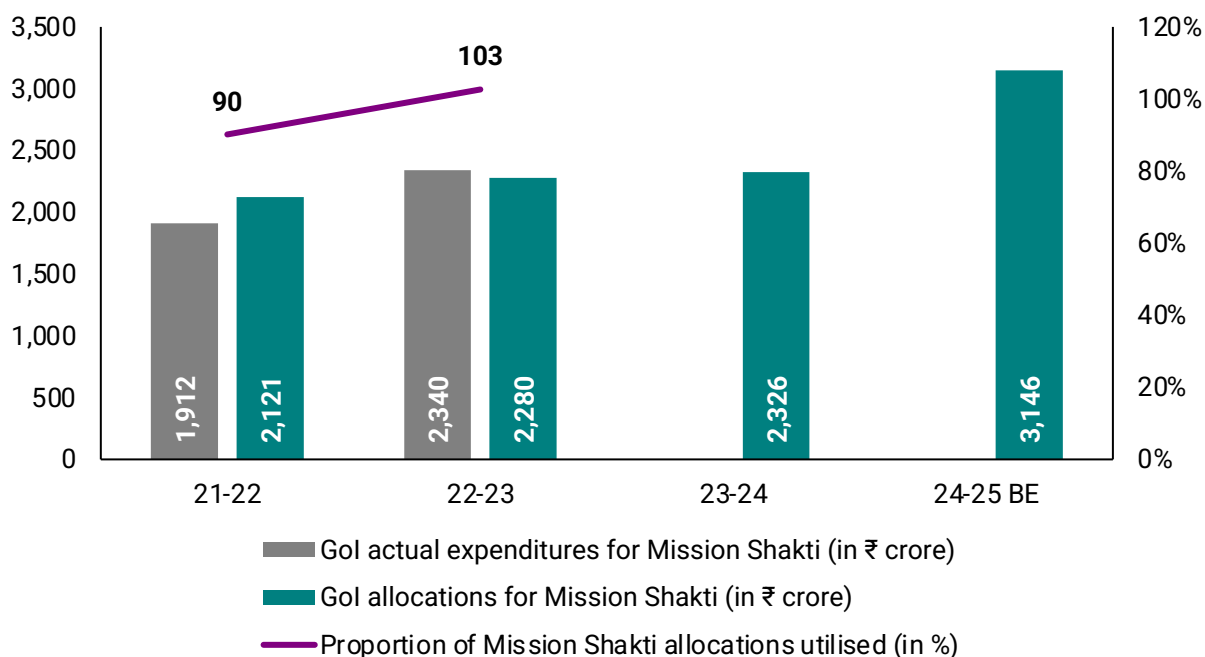


Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 21-22 to FY 24-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. Last accessed on 24 July 2024.

Note: Allocation figures till FY 23-24 are RE and FY 24-25 are BEs.

- Moreover, the projected demand for funds under Mission Shakti have also decreased since FY 21-22. In FY 21-22, while the amount demanded was ₹3,975 crore, allocations were 47 per cent lower at ₹2,121 crore. Similarly, the projected demand was 29 per cent lower by ₹909 crore in FY 22-23. In FY 23-24, the gap between allocation and projected demand increased by ₹1,063 crore.
- In FY 24-25 BEs, ₹3,146 crore was allocated for Mission Shakti. This reflects a marginal increase of 0.06 per cent increase from FY 23-24 BEs and 35 per cent increase from FY 23-24 REs.
- Utilisations of funds as a proportion of allocations has been high. In FY 21-22, 90 per cent of allocations were spent. More funds were spent than allocated in FY 22-23.

Figure 7: Allocations and Expenditures for Mission Shakti



Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 21-22 to FY 24-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. Last accessed on 24 July 2024.

Note: Allocation figures till FY 23-24 are REs and FY 24-25 are BEs. Expenditures reflect Gol releases to states and UTs.

SAMBAL

Mission Shakti's Sambal sub-scheme focusses on issues of women's safety and security. **Table 4** highlights the reconstituted Sambal sub-schemes from erstwhile MPEW.

Table 4: Existing components of Sambal sub-scheme

Sambal sub-scheme	Relevant sub-schemes under erstwhile MPEW
One Stop Centre	One Stop Centre
Beti Bachao Beti Padhao	Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
Women Helpline	Women Helpline
Nari Adalat	Mahila Police Volunteers

Sambal's components are briefly described below:

One Stop Centres are meant to be established across all districts acting as one-stop resource for counselling, medical and legal aid, filing police complaint, among others, for survivors of violence.

Women Helpline is a 24-hour toll-free telecom service for supporting and connecting women to emergency services such as One Stop Centres, fire, ambulance, police, etc.

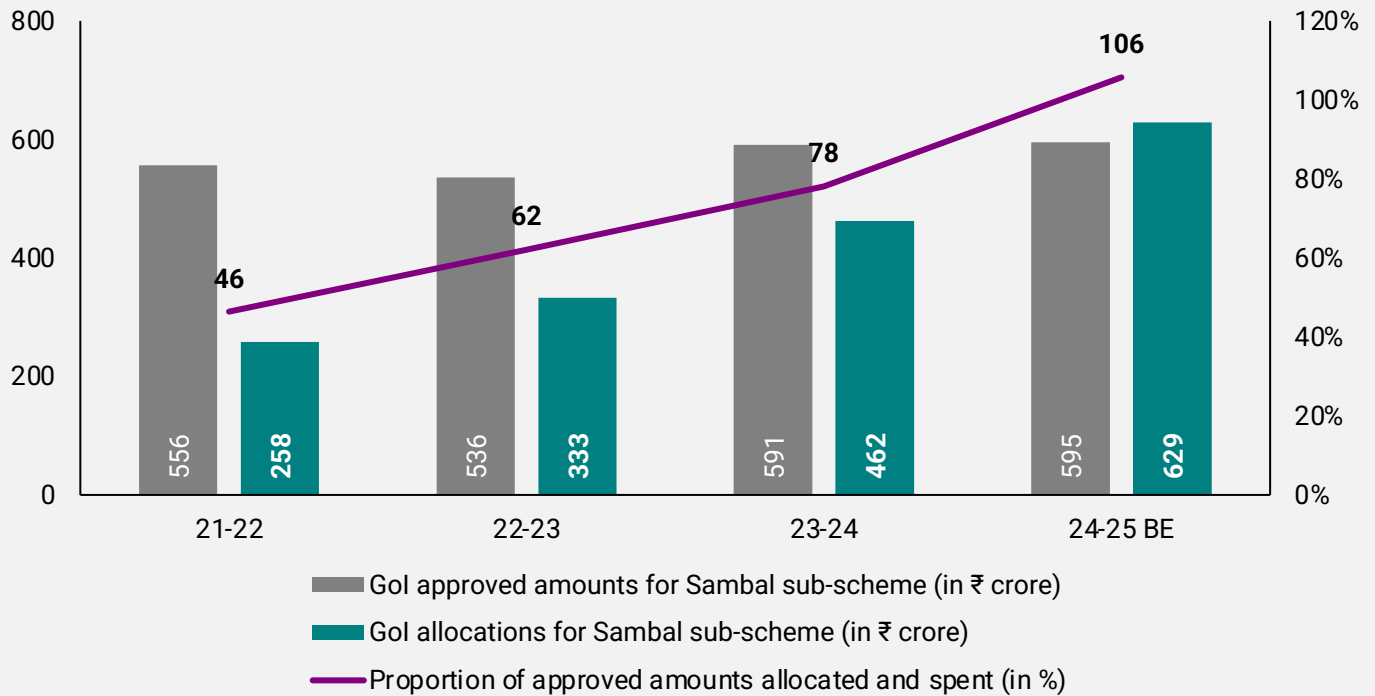
Beti Bachao Beti Padhao aims improve sex ratio at birth through zero-budget advertising and improving girls' participation in higher education and sports.

Nari Adalat attempts to provide alternate grievance redressal to women for resolving petty crimes.

Trends in Allocations and Expenditures

- Allocations for Sambal were lower than the approved amounts till FY 23-24. In FY 21-22, allocations for Sambal were ₹298 crore lower than the approved amount.
- In FY 24-25 BEs, Sambal bridged the gap in approved amount with an additional ₹34 crore allocated than the approved amount.

Figure 8: Share of Approved Amounts Allocated by Gol for Sambal sub-scheme

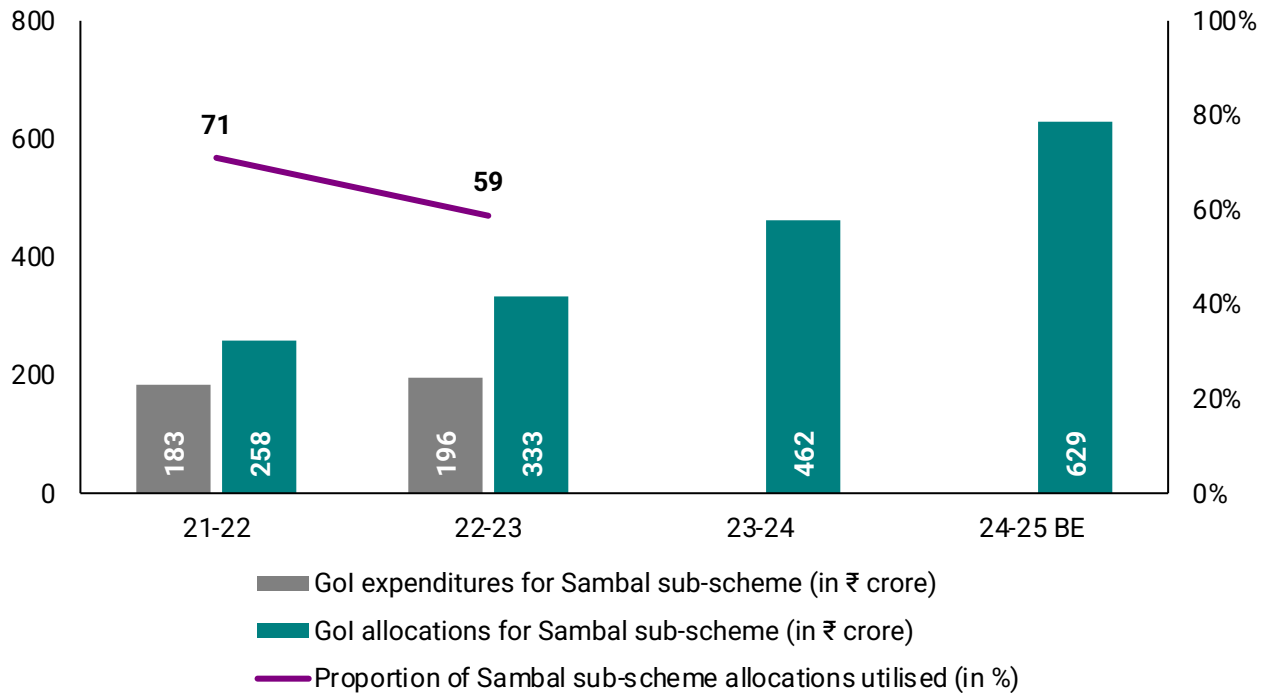


Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 21-22 to FY 24-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in> . Last accessed on 24 July 2024.

Note: Allocation figures till FY 23-24 is REs and FY 24-25 are BEs.

- Since FY 21-22, allocations for Sambal have increased by 35 per cent on average. Between FY 23-24 and FY 24-25 BEs, allocations increased by 36 per cent from ₹462 crore to ₹629 crore. Compared to FY 23-24 BEs, allocation in FY 24-25 BEs increased by 12 per cent from ₹562 crore.
- Expenditures, as a proportion of Sambal allocations, however, suggest a decreasing trend. In FY 21-22, 71 per cent of allocation was utilised, decreasing to 59 per cent in FY 22-23.

Figure 9: Allocations and Expenditures for Sambal sub-scheme



Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 21-22 to FY 24-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. Last accessed on 24 July 2024.

Note: Allocation figures till FY 23-24 are REs and FY 24-25 are BEs. Expenditures reflect Gol releases to states and UTs.

Key Progress Indicators

- According to Mission Shakti guidelines, 300 new centres were going to be constructed in the period since FY 21-22⁷. As on 31 May 2024, 816 One Stop Centres were approved and 770 are currently operational. Between FY 15-16 to FY 20-21, more than 3 lakh women were assisted at One Stop Centres. Till 31 May 2024, assistance has increased for more than 9 lakh women⁸.
- According to a Lok Sabha reply on Women Helpline Scheme dated 26 July 2024, as on 31 May 2024, 58,099 calls were registered and 655 women assisted, down from more than 1 lakh calls registered and 4,000+ women assisted in 23-24⁹.
- In 2021-22, 934 girls were born for every 1,000 boys, compared to 918 in 2014¹⁰.
- In FY 23-24, the first phase of the Nari Adalat scheme was being implemented in select districts and blocks of Jammu and Kashmir and Assam¹¹.

SAMARTHYA

Mission Shakti's Samarthya sub-scheme focusses on issues of women's empowerment. **Table 5** highlights the reconstituted Samarthya sub-schemes from erstwhile MPEW and Umbrella ICDS.

Table 5: Existing components of Samarthya's sub-scheme

Samarthya sub-scheme	Relevant sub-schemes under erstwhile MPEW and Umbrella ICDS
Shakti Sadan	Swadhar Greh and Ujjawala (MPEW)
Sakhi Niwas	Working Women Hostel (MPEW)
Palna	National Creche Scheme (Umbrella ICDS)
PMMVY	PMMVY (Umbrella ICDS)
National Hub for Empowerment of Women	

Samarthya's components are briefly described below:

PMMVY is a conditional cash transfer scheme, compensating for partial-wage loss during pregnancy. It recently extended benefits to women for second live birth, only if it is a girl child.

Shakti Sadan are shelters which provide a safe and enabling environment for women in distress. They provide consolidated services like legal aid, medical facilities, counselling, and education and vocational training.

Palna aims to provide quality creche facilities to children of working mothers. It is implemented in convergence with Mission POSHAN 2.0, and creche facilities are delivered at Anganwadi Centres.

Sakhi Niwas was renamed from Working Women Hostel. The scheme provides residence to working women with functional facilities like food, day-care, among others.

National Hub for Empowerment of Women aims to promote inter-sectoral and inter-ministerial convergence and improve processes of programmes and schemes for women's holistic empowerment.

Trends in Allocations and Expenditures

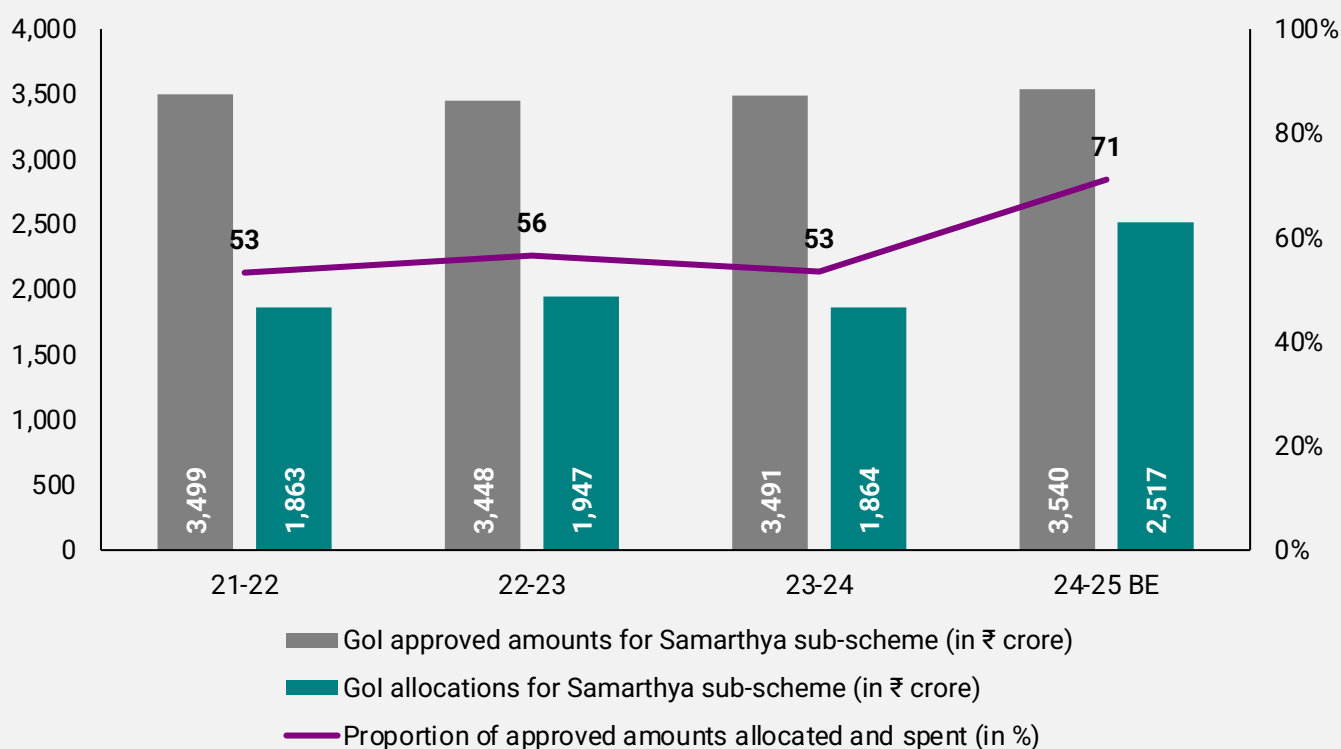
- Like Sambal, allocations for Samarthya have been lower than the approved amounts. Unlike Sambal, however, Gol partly finances the components under Samarthya. The breakup of Gol and state share is highlighted in **Table 6**.
- Gol has to provide 70 per cent of Samarthya's total approved amounts to state governments. There are variations for Gol's share in the approved amounts for Samarthya's components. For instance, while Gol provides 89 per cent of the finances for the National Hub for Empowerment of Women, it provides 67 per cent of finances under PMMVY.
- Moreover, the component of PMMVY occupies a significant share in the total amounts approved under Samarthya. This is also one of the reasons for the increase in allocations from erstwhile MPEW in overall Mission Shakti since it was relaunched including PMMVY.

Table 6: Breakup of GoI and State share for Samarthya

Components under Samarthya	GoI	State
National Hub for Empowerment of Women	89%	11%
Shakti Sadan	68%	32%
Sakhi Niwas	67%	33%
Palna	67%	33%
PMMVY	67%	33%
Samarthya	70%	30%

- In FY 21-22, allocation for Samarthya were ₹1,636 crore lower than the approved amount. In FY 24-25 BEs, the gap between allocations and approved amount reduced to ₹1,023 crore.

Figure 10: Share of Approved Amounts Allocated by GoI for Samarthya sub-scheme

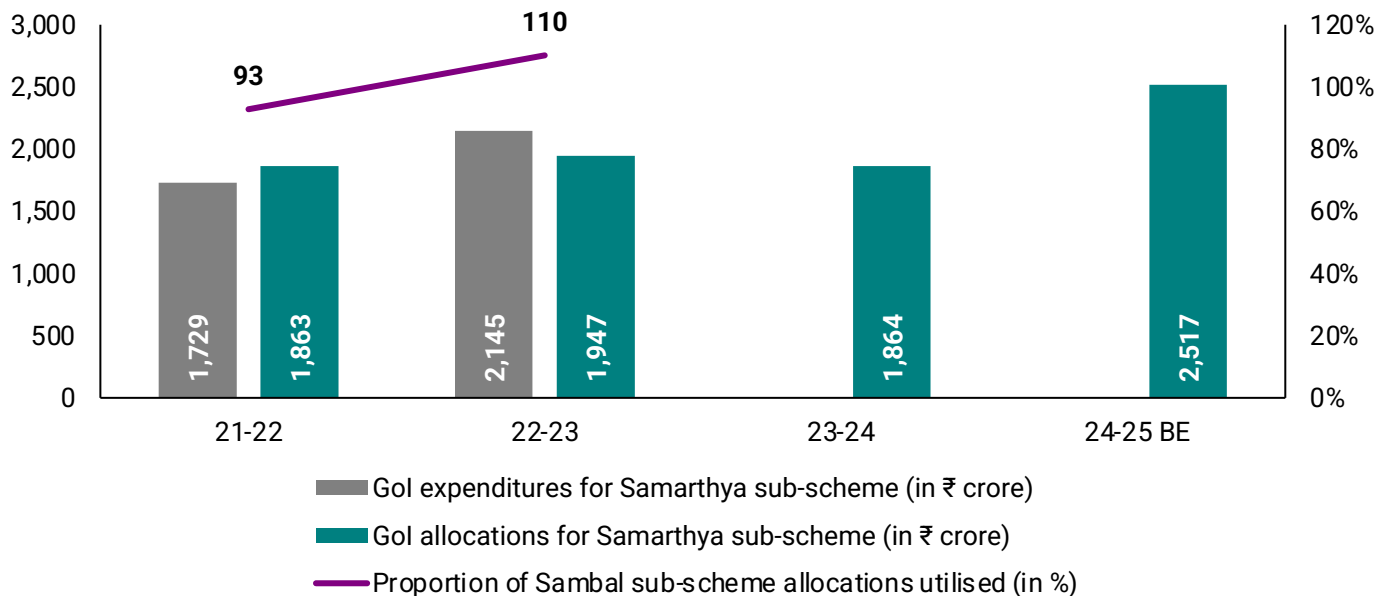


Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 21-22 to FY 24-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. Last accessed on 24 July 2024.

Note: Allocation figures till FY 23-24 is RE and FY 24-25 are BEs.

- Since FY 21-22, allocations have increased by 9 per cent on average. Between FY 23-24 REs and FY 24-25 BEs, allocations increased by 35 per cent from ₹1,864 crore to ₹2,517 crore. Compared to FY 23-24 BEs, allocations in FY 24-25 decreased by 3 per cent from ₹2,582 crore.
- Expenditures, as a proportion of Samarthya allocations, however, suggest an increasing trend. In FY 21-22, 93 per cent of allocation was utilised, increasing to 110 per cent (more funds spent than allocated) in FY 22-23.

Figure 11: Allocations and Expenditures for Samarthya sub-scheme



Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 21-22 to FY 24-25. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. Last accessed on 9 July 2024.

Note: Allocation figures till FY 23-24 are REs and FY 24-25 are BEs. Expenditures reflect Gol releases to states and UTs.

Key Progress Indicators

- As on 30 June 2024, 3.96 crore women were registered under PMMVY¹². However, according to a Right to Information filed on 5 March 2024, the number of enrolled pregnant women and lactating women registered decreased from 74.78 lakh in FY 19-20 to 53.18 lakh in FY 23-24 (till 6 March 2024).
- As on 30 April 2024, 445 Shakti Sadans were operational in the country, compared to 464 in FY 21-22¹³. According to a Lok Sabha reply on Schemes for Destitute Women dated 2 February 2024, the number of women provided services under Shakti Sadan has fallen from 12,638 in FY 18-19 to 10,955 women in FY 22-23¹⁴.
- According to a Lok Sabha reply on Reduction in Creches dated 2 February 2024, 17,000 creches are envisioned to be set-up till FY 25-26, of which only 5,631 have been approved. In the earlier creche scheme, 25,000 creches were operational in 2013¹⁵.
- In 2023, 494 Sakhi Niwas with day-care facilities were operational, out of which 129 were in Kerala¹⁶.

The next section looks at past trends of some sub-schemes under erstwhile MPEW which were subsumed under Mission Shakti.

PAST TRENDS IN SUBSUMED SUB-SCHEMES OF ERSTWHILE MPEW

- In FY 24-25 BEs, allocations under MPEW reflect one sub-scheme – Other Schemes Funded from Nirbhaya Fund¹.
- In FY 24-25 BEs, ₹30 crore was allocated under Other Schemes Funded from Nirbhaya Fund, same as FY 23-24 REs, and ₹10 crore more than FY 23-24 BEs. In FY 22-23, however, ₹500 crore was spent.
- On the other hand, between FY 16-17 and FY 20-21, out of total GoI allocations for MPEW, Nirbhaya Fund was the largest sub-scheme. Allocations for the Nirbhaya Fund, however, decreased from ₹400 crore in FY 16-17 to ₹303 crore in FY 20-21. Utilisations, however, had been high across years as more funds were spent than allocated.

Table 7: MPEW Allocations and Expenditures across Key Sub-schemes (in ₹ crore)

Year	Type	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21
Beti Bachao Beti Padhao	Expenditure	29	169	245	86	61
	Allocation	43	200	280	200	100
	% Fund Utilised	67	85	87	43	61
Information and Mass Communication/Education	Expenditure	54	65	89	73	17
	Allocation	60	75	120	100	50
	% Fund Utilised	90	87	74	73	33
One Stop Center	Expenditure	40	30	149	138	160
	Allocation	75	90	303	204	170
	% Fund Utilised	54	33	49	67	94
Nirbhaya Fund	Expenditure	500	500	500	498	500
	Allocation	400	400	161	275	303
	% Fund Utilised	125	125	310	181	165
Swadhar Greh	Expenditure	84	57	25	25	24
	Allocation	90	75	50	35	25
	% Fund Utilised	93	76	49	73	98
Ujjawala	Expenditure	20	25	6	9	8
	Allocation	24	35	20	20	8
	% Fund Utilised	85	70	32	47	100
Women Helpline	Expenditure	1	8	12	11	13
	Allocation	25	10	29	17	25
	% Fund Utilised	3	76	41	67	50
Working Women Hostel	Expenditure	23	27	30	33	20
	Allocation	28	30	52	45	20
	% Fund Utilised	83	90	58	72	98
Mission for Protection and Empowerment	Expenditure	793	945	1138	901	817
	Allocation	821	988	1156	961	726
	% Fund Utilised	97	96	98	94	113

Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MWCD, FY 17-18 to FY 20-21. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in>. Last accessed on 9 July 2024.

¹ Till FY 22-23, allocations were also made under 'Transfer to Nirbhaya Fund'. Scheme guidelines, however, indicate that the whole of MPEW was reconstituted as Mission Shakti.

- There were variations in the prioritisation reflected through allocations in other sub-schemes during the period between FY 16-17 and FY 20-21 too (**Table 7**). While allocations for Beti Bachao Beti Padhao were high at ₹200 crore in FY 17-18, they halved by FY 20-21 to ₹100 crore. Utilisation of allocated amount also decreased from 85 per cent to 61 per cent over this period.
- Unlike Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, which was started in the same year as One Stop Centres, allocations for the scheme increased from ₹75 crore to ₹170 crore between FY 16-17 and FY 20-21. Utilisation rates also increased from 54 per cent in FY 16-17 to 94 per cent in FY 20-21.
- MPEW sub-schemes such as Gender Budgeting and Research, Publication and Monitoring, High Level Committee on Status of Women, Home for Widows, Innovative work on Women and Children (Social Defence), Mahila Police Volunteers, Priyadarshini, Research, Publication and Monitoring, and Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP) received little to no allocations between FY 16-17 and FY 20-21. These components are also not a part of the reconstituted Mission Shakti.
- Despite the high trends in allocations and expenditures for Nirbhaya Fund between FY 16-17 and FY 20-21, the sub-scheme was not reconstituted under Mission Shakti. In fact, trends since FY 21-22 suggest that it is being deprioritised.
- The Nirbhaya Fund was launched in 2015 for promoting women's safety in public spaces. Apart from MWCD, other Gol ministries and departments run projects under the Fund. According to Lok Sabha reply on Utilisation of Nirbhaya Fund dated 2 February 2024, out of ₹7,213 crore allocated till FY 23-24, ₹5,448 crore (75 per cent) has been spent, . Out of total funds released for ministry-wise projects, the Ministry of Home Affairs received 53 per cent (₹2,891 crore) of overall funds, followed by MWCD at 18 per cent (₹993 crore) and Department of Justice at 15 per cent (₹825 crore)¹⁷.
- In its 359th Action Taken Report on Demand for Grants for MWCD, the Parliamentary Committee had recommended that the utilisation trends of Mission Shakti's sub-schemes and components must be closely examined. It also recommended MWCD to develop mechanisms for regularly monitoring fund utilisation under the scheme¹⁸.
- MWCD indicated that, in case of One Stop Centres and Shakti Sadans, there were challenges with constructing the shelters. In some cases, shelters were constructed but Utilisation Certificates were not furnished by state governments, resulting in underutilisation of funds. For Palna, MWCD highlighted that there were not enough proposals from state governments for converting Anganwadis into Anganwadi-cum-Creches. Cost norms for Palna are currently being revised because of the challenges faced by state governments in implementing this component.

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About ResGov

The Foundation for Responsive Governance (ResGov) is a Section 8 not-for-profit working to strengthen the capabilities of government and communities to ensure public initiatives reach the most vulnerable.

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Suggested citation: Rana, T., Kapur, A., and Pandey, S., (2024), Trends in Finances for the Ministry of Women and Child Development, *Budget Insights 2024-25*, Volume 1, Issue 2, Foundation for Responsive Governance, New Delhi. 29 July 2024.

Acknowledgements

This is a team effort and we are grateful to the entire team at ResGov with special mention to Laavanya Tamang.

Banner Credit: Accountability Initiative, Centre for Policy Research.



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