

2040939/2023/ECCE

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Government of India
Ministry of Women & Child Development

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,
Date: 29th November, 2023

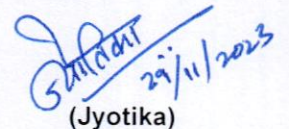
Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Guidelines for organisation of fixed monthly ECCE days and provision of PSE kit at Anganwadi Centers (AWCs)

As you are aware, HMWCD has launched Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi (PBPB) initiative on 10th May 2023, under Saksham Anganwadi and Mission Poshan 2.0 scheme. The objective of PBPB is to improve the quality of early childhood care and education (ECCE) in the Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), along with the focus on nutrition. In this regard, steps such as new guidelines for organisation of monthly ECCE days and increased allocation of budget for PSE kits per AWC are being implemented.

2. Past guidelines on ECCE days were issued by MWCD via letter dated 5th August 2013, vide F. No. 1-6/2013-ECCE with subject "Organisation of 'Fixed monthly ECCE day' under ICDS at Anganwadi Centers (AWCs)". It is noted that updation of these guidelines is in order, given the release of National Education Policy 2020 and National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage 2022. New guidelines for conducting the fixed monthly ECCE days under various themes have been enclosed herewith in **Annexure 1** for immediate reference and action accordingly. These guidelines outline details of different types of events that can be conducted by the Anganwadi Worker with the parents and community, aligned with the academic calendar, to help children with school-readiness and life skills.

3. Further, reference is drawn to point 2 (iv) of the letter dated 1st August 2023 with subject "Administrative Approval of Annual Programme Implementation Plan (APIP) 2023-24 for 'Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0' - Reg". It may be noted that the allocation of budget for Pre School Education Kits has been increased from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 3000/- per AWC per year. This additional budget outlay should be spent to ensure adequate Teaching-Learning Material at each AWC, supplemented by States' own spending. Existing PSE kit guidelines were published by MWCD in September 2017. Supplementary guidelines for provision of PSE Kits have been enclosed herewith in **Annexure 2**.


(Jyotika)

Deputy Secretary
(Saksham Anganwadi & Mission Poshan 2.0
(Anganwadi Services, SAG),)

Encl: As above.

To

State Directors/In-Charge of ICDS of all States/UTs

Copy to,

1. PPS to AS (ADR), WCD
2. PPS to DS (AD), WCD
3. PPS to JS (TG), WCD

Annexure 1 - Guidelines for ECCE Days and Community Based Events (CBE)

Under the Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi Initiative of Saksham Anganwadi and Mission Poshan 2.0, it is envisioned that Anganwadi centres become vibrant learning centres in the community, for the timely and holistic development of children. This involves a whole-of-government and whole-of-community approach, for engagement with parents, caregivers, and the community.

While a fixed monthly ECCE Day is mandatory to be observed by all AWCs in all States, the themed activities offer a bouquet of ideas to States, to take up depending on local contexts. They are also aligned with the academic calendar/financial year, together with AWW retirement dates, i.e, from April to April, for seamless transition of children to school. This document contains an indicative list of community engagement activities that can be conducted during the 12 monthly ECCE days, or in separate Community Based Events once in six months. Each ECCE day session is recommended to be at least 2 hours, with adequate planning and advance communication to all parents and caregivers to ensure maximum attendance. One event must be conducted per month, while flexibility remains with the States on topics and themes.

	Name/ Theme of Activity	Description	Venue
Q1 (April - June)			
1	PBPB Orientation	AWW helps caregivers understand the importance of ECCE, key domains through "brain architecture and connections" thread activity. She leads the caregivers in taking "Oath" or "Shiksha Shapath", promising to spend 30 minutes daily with children on ECCE.	AWC
2	Parent-Anganwadi Worker Meeting (PAM) // Learning Fair or Mela 1	In principle like a Parent-Teacher Meeting. Separate domain-wise camps are set up in different corners, where each child demonstrates their progress level. AWW and AWH use this as a way to discuss individual child's progress needs with their caregiver, and this is recorded in their Child Portfolio.	AWC
3	ECCE 3-6 y Curriculum Discussion	AWWs share the major domains and activities that will be covered through the year for each sub-age group: 3-4, 4-5 and 5-6 years.	AWC
Q2 (July-September)			
4	Talent Show (Language skills)	AWW helps caregivers conduct language activity with children and explains how doing such a simple activity is helping children learn new words and engaging their bodies in movement (eg. Ask the children to stand in two circles; children stand in the inner circle and parents stand in an outer circle. Teach them a poem (rhyme) with actions. Other options are puppetry show, card making). This is followed by a talent show of children singing different songs/poems in front of the whole group to show what they have learnt.	Common area where broader community can join
5	ECD 0-3 y Milestones Discussion	AWWs share the major domains and activities that caregivers need to keep into account for each sub-age group : 0-6 months, 6-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24, 24-36m.	AWC, ideally repeated through home visits
6	DIY toy making workshop	AWW, AWH and parents bring spare and waste material together and use these to make simple toys, objects and materials that can be used for learning activities (shared across AWW and home). One child, one toy at least. Local artisans can also be included.	AWC

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Q3 (October - December)			
7	Parent-Anganwadi Worker Meeting (PAM) // Learning Fair or Mela 2	In principle like a Parent-Teacher Meeting. Similar domain-wise learning mela as item 2 is done so that current skill levels of children are determined and caregivers can see both the progress and the focus areas. The student portfolio is used as the base for discussion.	AWC
8	Caregivers Group Discussion	Caregivers with children of the same age connect with each other for peer learning on decided developmental themes, with facilitation by the AWW	Homes in 3-4 different sections of the village
9	Sports and Dance day (Motor skills)	AWW helps caregivers conduct physical activities with children. Examples include hopscotch (Draw a hopscotch diagram on the floor. Invite a few parents and children to play the game. As the children play, explain to parents how playing the game is a fun way to learn to read, recognise and count numbers up to 8), Yoga (different poses)/ aerobics, early sports or other exercises, etc. This is followed by children playing different games in front of the group to show what they have learnt.	Common area where broader community can join
Q4 (January - March)			
10	Numeracy and Creativity day (Nanhe Kalakaar)	Numeracy and creativity activities are demonstrated which can also be done at home later. Examples:- 1. Numeracy - Hopscotch, rhymes related to numbers, role play of vegetable market and purchasing 2. Creativity - Invite parents to talk about folk art and show it to children, let them practice Puzzles. Dance and drama can also be considered.	Common area where broader community can join
11	Anganwadi Improvement Day	Community members and AWC staff work together to improve infrastructure of AWW - eg. do paintings (BaLA) on walls of Anganwadi centers, make posters that can be hung up, make toys and TLM, cleaning drive etc	AWC
12	Graduation and Enrolment Drive	Final Learning mela conducted of outgoing 5-6 year old children, followed by a graduation ceremony. Caregivers of newly turned/turning 3 year olds also invited so they can be enrolled.	Common area where broader community can join

Monitoring and Reporting:

1. **Physical:** Supervisors may attend 1 ECCE day at any 1 AWC under their charge per week on a rotating basis, to accompany, support, train and hand-hold the AWW. Status of holding ECCE days may be reviewed in all Mission Poshan progress review meetings held at State, district, Block and AWC level.
2. **Multimedia:** AWWs may send photos and videos of their activities to their Supervisors, CDPOs and DPOs. DPOs may maintain a digital record of activities through easily shareable means. States may compile and share with the Centre together with the MPR. Poshan Tracker may also be used, through CBE reporting.

Annexure 2 - Guidelines for PSE Kits / TLM Procurement

Under the Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi Initiative under Saksham Anganwadi and Mission Poshan 2.0, it is envisioned that Anganwadi centres become vibrant learning centres in the community, for the timely and holistic development of children. In this endeavour, HMWCD has approved the increase of Teaching Learning Material (TLM), i.e. Pre-School Education (PSE) Kit budget from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 3000 per AWC per year.

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For age 0-6 years, toys constitute a large portion of the TLM, and convergence is sought under PM's National Action Plan for Toys (NAPT). "One Child, One Toy" principle may be adopted. TLM can include material that is procured, including indigenous toys, as well as material that is freshly created, i.e. DIY toys using low cost and no cost material.

In accordance with National Education Policy 2020, National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage 2022 and Prime Minister's National Action Plan for Toys, suggested items for the PSE kit are given below, categorized by learning domain, keeping in mind that many items can apply to multiple domains as they are interconnected. This is an indicative, non-exhaustive list, and States may add or remove items as appropriate, keeping in mind the following principles for selection:

1. Items that are safe for children age 0-6 years and contextualised to local realities
2. Items from each domain - no domain should be left out
3. Items with flexible use-cases for learning (single/group, developmentally appropriate)
4. Items that are long-lasting
5. Items that can be shared by multiple children at the AWC
6. Items that have maximum educational value within budget
7. Items that help improve perception of Anganwadi as a space for holistic learning for 3-6 year old children, i.e. look and feel like a play-school

Child-facing, i.e. Intended for Children's Use	
Domain	Suggested Toys/TLM
Physical and motor (gross and fine)	1. Colourful Clay/ Play-doh (Set of 10 colours) 2. Building blocks (Set of 100 pieces) (easy to handle & maintain, bigger blocks) 3. Soft Balls 4. Dominoes 5. Skipping rope 6. Toddler sports equipment (cricket bat, badminton racket etc)
Cognitive	1. Pipe and Angle set 2. Stacking Cups set 3. Magnetic Puzzle set 4. Flash cards with different colours, shapes, animals, etc 5. Peg Boards 6. Shape Tangrams 7. Beads 8. Sequence cards
Socio-emotional-ethical	1. 2D face masks (eg: Plastic mukhavate) set 2. Dolls/ Soft Toys (Indigenous, wooden, painted, folk dancers/musicians figures etc) 3. Puppets (finger, hand, stick puppets) 4. Flashcards (emotions, diversity depiction of arts/culture/festival, community helpers like postman, watchman, etc) 5. Kitchen set / Doctor set
Cultural/ Artistic	1. Plain white sheets of paper for colouring, writing 2. Thick Crayons pack 3. Thin Crayons pack 4. Musical Instrument (local instruments, xylophone, piano mat, rattle, drum set/dhapli, tambourine, etc)
Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN)	1. Age-wise Activity Books for different age groups per child a. 3-4 years b. 4-5 years c. 5-6 years

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	2. Age-appropriate local language picture story books 3. Foam alphabet and number set (Local language and English) 4. Slate per child 5. Chalk sets 6. Flashcards: Story telling, action words, fruits and vegetables, animals, letters, numbers, seasons, clothing etc. 7. Posters for Letters/numbers/habits 8. Abacus 9. Geometrical shapes 10. Counting frames
Others	1. Child Portfolio Folders/Boxes per child for storing children's prepared materials and showing parents 2. Bag for holding Kit items
AWW-facing, i.e. Intended for AWW's Use	
Sample Daily Timetable	Simple pictorial depictions of Anganwadi workers' daily plan in the Anganwadi centre for one month timeframe for one theme. This will ensure adequate domain-level diversity and planning over the 12 month period.
Annual Calendar with Monthly Themes	Simple pictorial calendar with different themes for different months, ideally linked to children's surroundings (for example, water theme during monsoon times, local festival months etc).
Curriculum Book (eg Pahal in UP, Aakar and Aarambh in Maharashtra etc.)	Curriculum booklet with adequate localized explanation, rationale, activity samples etc.
Scripts and Materials for Home Visits	Sample scripts and plans for home visits (including for cognitive stimulation of children from 0-3 years of age), monthly mothers' meetings, ECCE days, etc.
Student Assessment Cards	Assessment cards aligned with the NEP to be filled out for each child.
Others, intended for Anganwadi Recognition as a Learning Centre	
	Name plate for Anganwadi Centre (Centre/AWW name, Education Tagline "Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi")
	Posters and charts for AWC walls
	Pinboard and pins for putting up materials