

7/11/23

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
Content of the Question is more important than length.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हारिफ में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।
Candidates must not write on this margin.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या को अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

What do you know about poshan tracker? Discuss how it provides opportunity to monitor progress in addressing malnutrition in India. [150 words]

Poshan tracker is a mobile phone app-based nutrition monitoring system introduced by the ministry of women and child development to improve last-mile delivery of nutritional services for women and children. It is a centralised ICT-enabled platform which acts as a real-time feedback system for frontline functionaries to prevent malnutrition by identifying at an early stage, targeting people who are facing acute malnutrition and brings in transparency in the effective delivery of ICDS services.

Effective Malnutrition monitoring system:-

Poshan tracker provides an unprecedented opportunity in monitoring progress in addressing malnutrition in India. As per UN data projections, out of 113 million children under the age of 5, 72 million children's height and weight are being collected through the poshan tracker application, which is more than 50 per cent of children in the country. This is an indication of wide range, diverse database collection in monitoring children's growth.

The app automatically calculates whether a child ~~is~~ is stunted (or) wasted (or) is underweight based on the WHO Growth Charts. This significantly reduces the risk of manual calculations and thereby reduces errors in data & improves the quality of the data making it more reliable.

The poshan tracker enables real-time transmission of data to local, state & central offices, thereby increasing the speed of data transmission. It is also easier to retrieve information about a given child from this app when compared to bulky paper-based registers, saving more time.

To improve transparency, the poshan tracker dashboard comprises of 3 sets of data (national, state & district level) on the (a) Anganwadi centre's infrastructure & the number of Anganwadi centres built along with their service delivery efficiency. (b) number of beneficiaries who received take-home rations & hot cooked meals. (c) Monitoring the nutritional outcomes.

Hence, the poshan tracker is a magnificent tool in monitoring nutritional ^{services} delivery to women & children. To fulfil the goals of poshan 2.0 guidelines, targeted delivery of services when malnutrition is detected is essential.