



प्रारम्भिक बाल देखभाल व विकास राजस्थान बजट 2023-24 विश्लेषण (फ़ोरा टाबर रो हित)

हक्र: सेंटर फॉर चाइल्ड
राइट्स



राजस्थान फोर्सस



नैशनल फोर्सस



BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

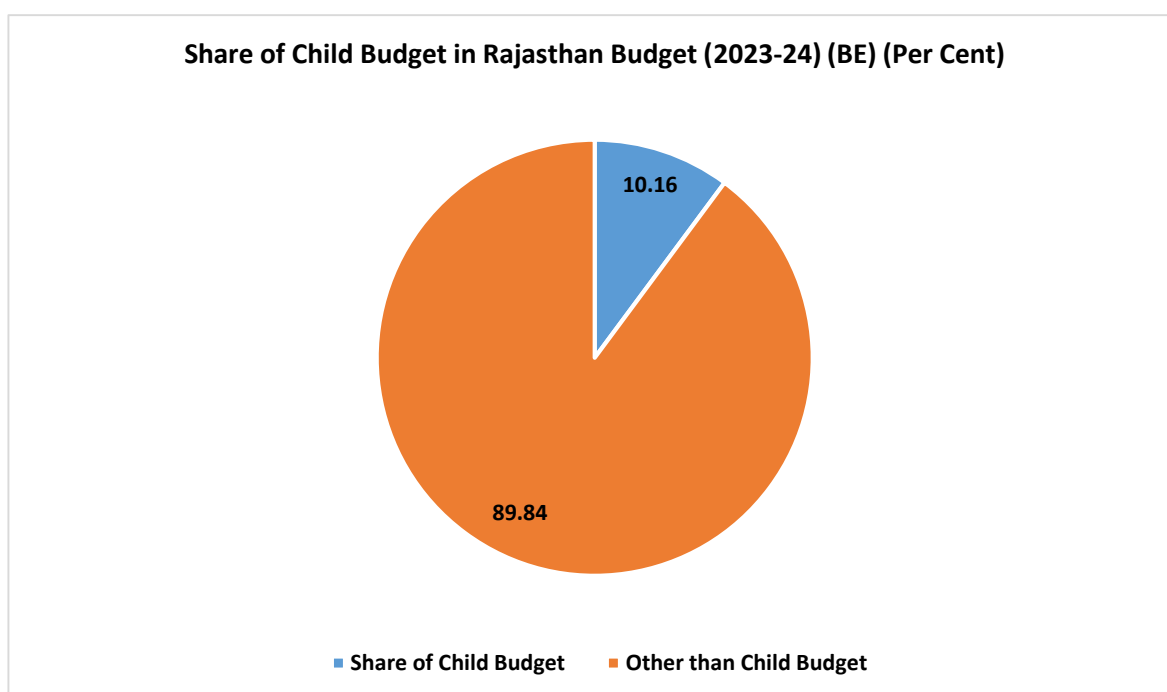
While the major focus of Rajasthan State Budget 2023-24 remained on empowering youth and providing scholarships to students, there have been a few welcome announcements for Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) as mentioned by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in his Budget Speech. Some of the key highlights which will benefit children in the age group of 0-6 years are following:

- Setting up of Priyadarshini Day Care Centres for children on working women. A total of 500 such centres will be set up in the State with the financial allocations.
- Under the Mid-Day Milk Scheme, the provision of providing milk to children from 2 days in a week has been increased to all seven days of the week.
- Under the allocations of Palanhaar Yojana, for the age group of 0-6 years children, the benefits of Rs. 500 per month has been increased to Rs. 750 per month. And for the children in the age group of 6-18 years, the benefit has been increased from Rs. 500 per month per child to Rs. 1000 per month per child.

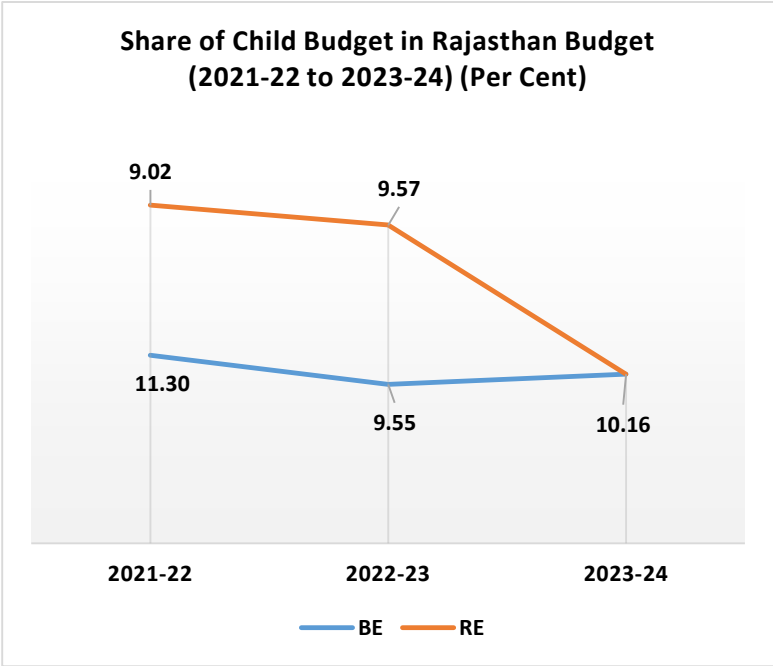
As per Census 2011, the population of children in the age group of 0-6 years constitute 15.5 per cent of the total State population.¹ While it is an acknowledged fact that the early childhood care is the most crucial stage of life which contribute towards rightful development of children, it is pertinent to see how does the State Government aspiring to full-fill its commitments towards the young population of the State in terms of financial resource allocations.

Rajasthan is among few States in India which has committed to publish a separate child budget Statement every alongwith the main budget. This has come a long way in promoting accountability and transparency of the State Government in terms of its services and policy road map.

A closer look at the State Budget of Rajasthan reveal that children (0 to 18 years) received 10.6 per cent of the total State Budget in the FY 2023-24. This allocation is a reduction of 0.61 percentage points as compared to the share of children in the State Budget 2022-23.



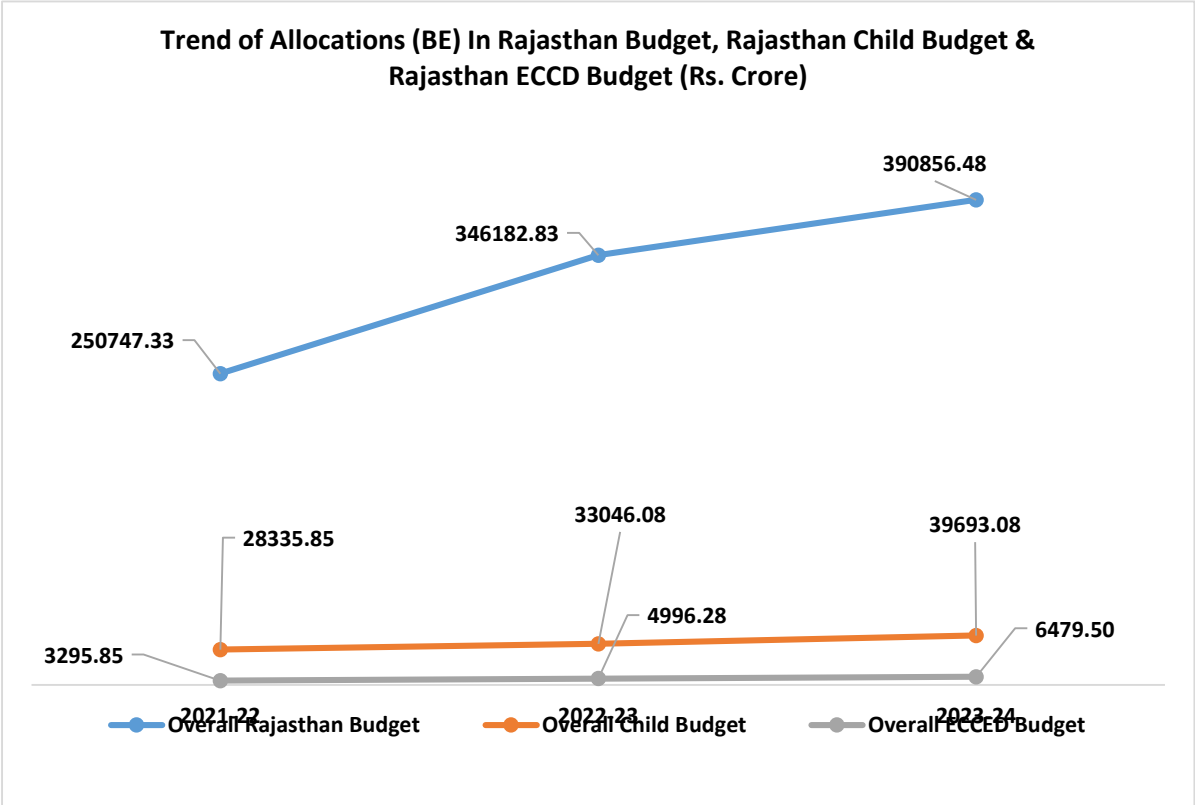
¹ https://rajasthan.gov.in/DemographicsStatistics.aspx?menu_id=20043



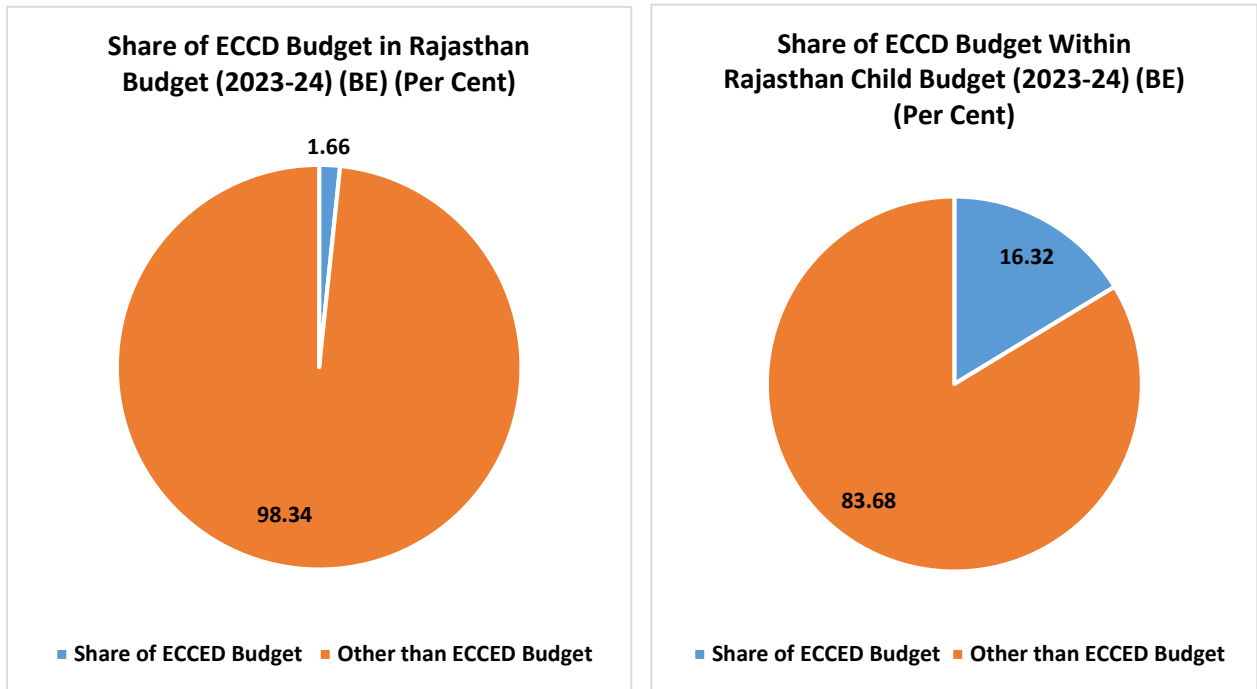
What is more, the Share of children in the State Budget 2021-22 received 11.30 per cent of the total financial allocations, which unfortunately has come down to 10.16 per cent in the State Budget 2023-24.

Such inconsistency in the allocation of Budgets for Children must be seen in the context of commitments made at the State level, National level as well as at International level such as achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Targets by 2030.

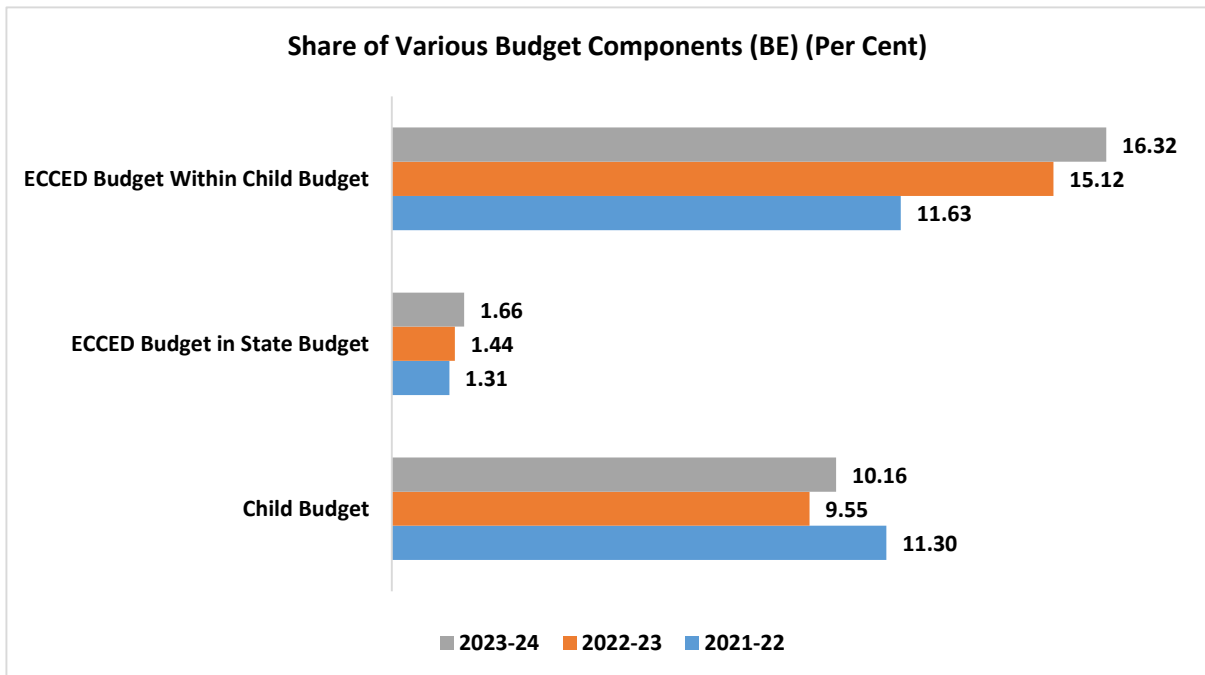
Further, if we dive deeper into the programmes related to ECCD in the State of Rajasthan, then the total share of allocations towards ECCD in 2023-24 State Budget stands at 1.66 per cent with the total allocation of Rs. 6479.50 Crore for various programmes at BE stage. The current allocations seem to be a welcome move from the State Govt. as it is an increase of 29.69 per cent as against the allocations of FY 2022-23 at BE stage.



If we take a sectoral approach, ECCD sector received 16.32 per cent share of allocations within the total Budget for Children related programmes in the State.



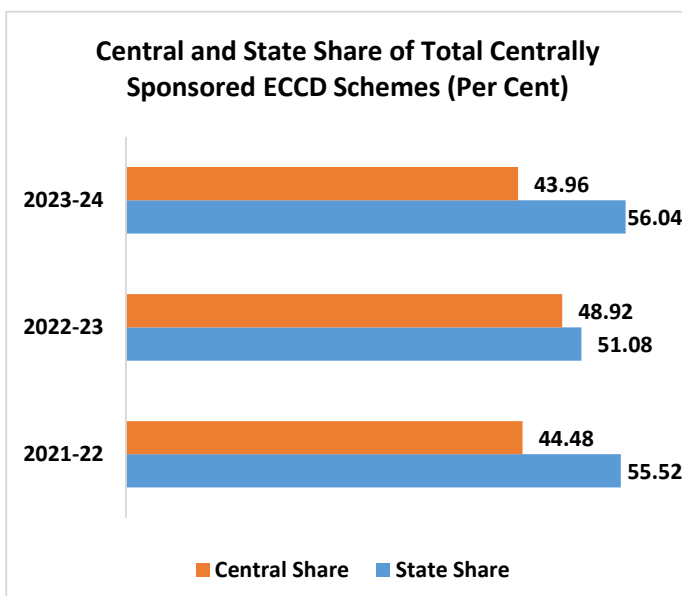
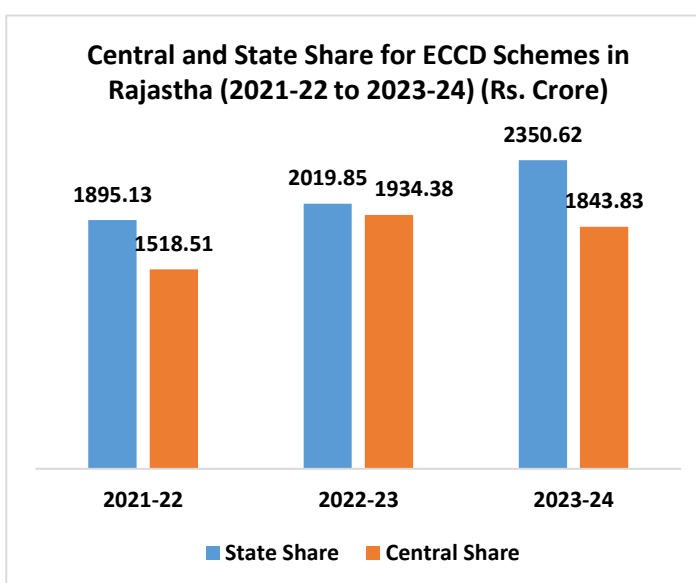
A closer look at the last three financial years i.e. FY 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 show an upward trend of allocations and share of ECCD component in the total State Budget and share of ECCD Budget within the Budget for Children in Rajasthan. However, the overall share of child budget in the State of Rajasthan across three financial years have been inconsistent.



KEY FLAGSHIP CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES IN RAJASTHAN FOR ECCD

The programmatic mandates towards Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) falls under the prerogative of both Union Government as well as State Government. Therefore, many of the schemes addressing the needs of early childhood care receive financial allocations both from Centre and State Government.

In the State Budget 2023-24, a total of Rs. 4194.45 Crore were allocated towards the Centrally Sponsored ECCD Schemes, out of which Rs. 2350.62 Crore (56.04%) came from the State Government and Rs. 1843.83 Crore (43.96%) allocations came as the Central Share.



The similar pattern of division of allocation from centre and State can be seen across the last three financial years i.e. between 2021-22 to 2023-24. The pattern of fund sharing at BE stage reveal a concern with respect to both Central Share as well as State Share because there is an inconsistent pattern of fund sharing across the years. For example, there is an increase in the State share from 2021-22 to 2023-24, but it dropped in FY 2022-23. Similarly, while the Central share towards ECCD schemes increased in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23, but there is a decrease of almost 4.96 percentage points in FY 2023-24.

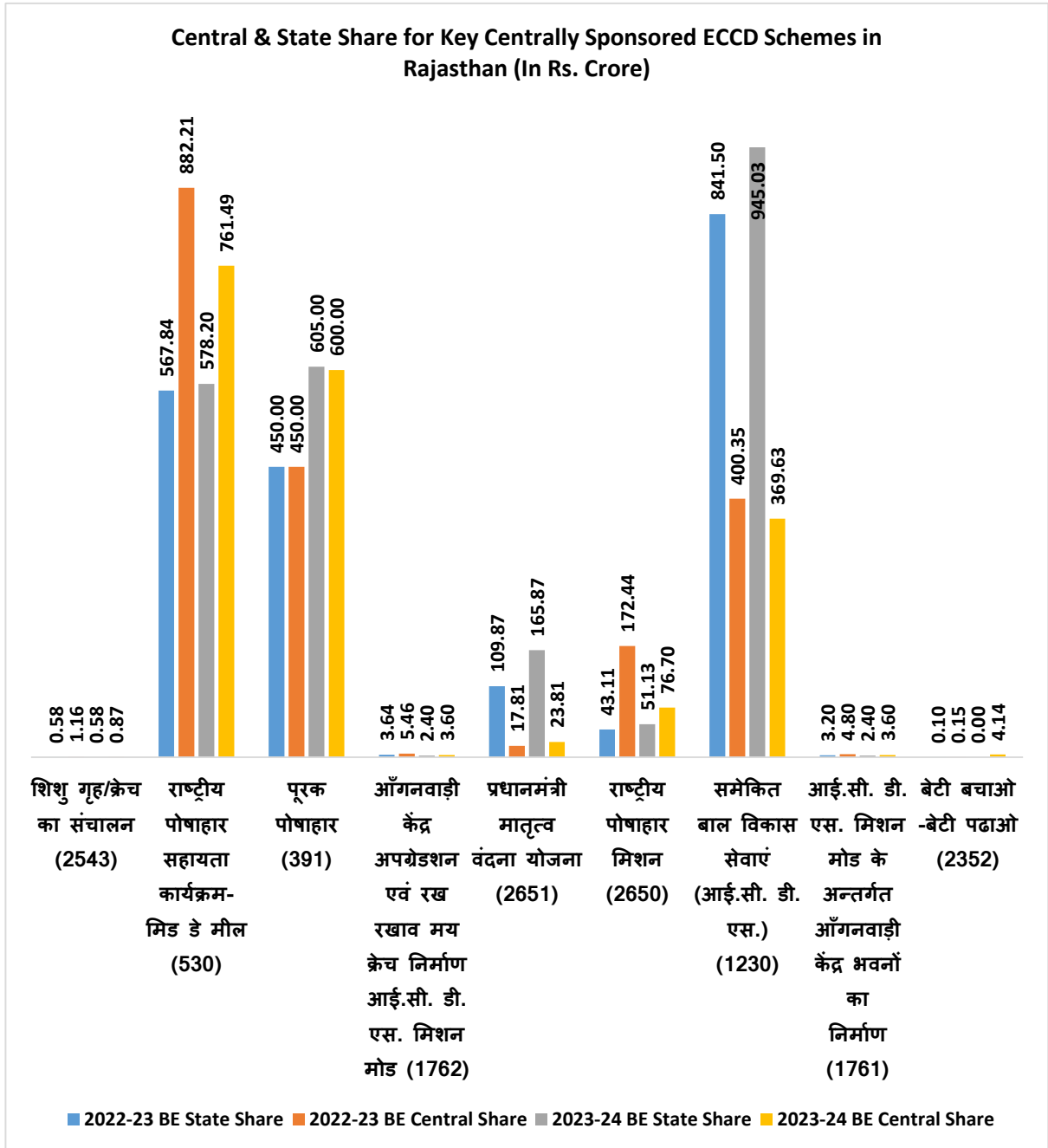
Central and State Share towards ECCD Schemes (2021-22 to 2023-24) (Rs. Crore)					
Year	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24
	BE	RE	BE	RE	BE
State Share	1895.13	2147.881	2019.85	2347.794	2350.62
Central Share	1518.51	1883.593	1934.38	2078.386	1843.83

Source: Rajasthan Budget Documents for FY 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24

For the purpose of analysis of State and Central Share for the ECCD Schemes in Rajasthan, following schemes have been taken into account:

- शिशु गृह/क्रेच का संचालन
- राष्ट्रीय पोषाहार सहायता कार्यक्रम- मिड डे मील

- पूरक पोषाहार
- आँगनवाड़ी केंद्र अपग्रेडेशन एवं रख रखाव मय क्रेच निर्माण आई.सी. डी. एस. मिशन मोड
- प्रधानमंत्री मातृत्व वंदना योजना
- राष्ट्रीय पोषाहार मिशन
- समेकित बाल विकास सेवाएं (आई.सी. डी. एस.)
- आई.सी. डी. एस. मिशन मोड के अन्तर्गत आँगनवाड़ी केंद्र भवनों का निर्माण
- बेटी बचाओ -बेटी पढाओ



In the Rajasthan Budget 2023-24, the **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)/ समेकित बाल विकास सेवाएं (आई.सी. डी. एस.)** received a total allocation of Rs. 1314.66 Crore at BE stage, which is a reduction of 0.80 per cent against the allocation of Rs. 1325.25 Crore at RE stage in 2022-23 State Budget. In FY 2021-22, ICDS was allocated a total sum of Rs. 84.15 Crore (BE).

Allocation towards Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) (Rs. Crore)					
	2021-22 (BE)	2021-22 (RE)	2022-23 (BE)	2022-23 (RE)	2023-24 (BE)
State Share	789.17	804.39	841.50	937.07	945.03
Central Share	384.47	363.02	400.35	388.18	369.63

Pradhan Mantri Matritva Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) is another centrally sponsored scheme which aims towards providing cash incentive of Rs. 5000/- directly to the Bank / Post Office Account of Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers (PW&LM) for first living child of the family subject to fulfilling specific conditions relating to Maternal and Child Health. This scheme is operational in all the districts of the country from 01.01.2017. In the State Budget 2023-24, PMMVY received a total allocation of Rs. 189.68 Crore, a significant increase of 48.56 per cent as against the allocations of Rs. 127.68 Crore at BE stage in FY 2022-23. The allocations for this programme remained unchanged at RE stage in FY 2022-23.

Allocation towards Pradhanmantri Matritva Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) (Rs. Crore)					
	2021-22 (BE)	2021-22 (RE)	2022-23 (BE)	2022-23 (RE)	2023-24 (BE)
State Share	109.87	106.75	109.87	109.87	165.87
Central Share	20.19	15.51	17.81	17.81	23.81

Construction of Anganwadi Centres under ICDS Mission Mode/ आई.सी. डी. एस. मिशन मोड के अन्तर्गत आँगनवाड़ी केंद्र भवनों का निर्माण, focuses on providing the infrastructure for adequate functioning of the Anganwadis. Unfortunately, this scheme has seen a drastic reduction of 25 per cent in the total fund allocation at BE stage in Rajasthan 2023-24 Budget. In the current budget, this scheme was allocated Rs. 6 Crores only whereas in 2022-23 State Budget, the total allocation for this scheme was Rs. 8 Crore. What is more, if we look at the trend of allocation, there is a massive 75 per cent reduction in the allocation (at BE stage) in FY 2023-24 as compared with 2021-22 allocations. As per the Government data, a total of 62010 Anganwadi Centres were sanctioned in the State of Rajasthan as on 30.06.2021. Out of the sanctioned Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), 61625 AWCs were functional, which means there is a deficit of 385 AWCs which are to be made functional.²

According to the Guidelines for construction of an AWC building under ICDS Mission Mode, an amount of Rs. 4.5 lakh is allocated for construction of new building and Rs. 1 lakh for renovation of the old building to make it child friendly. The cost is borne in 75:25 by Centre & State. Even if one considers the deficit of 385 AWCs (which are yet to be constructed and made functional), the State will require Rs. 9.62 Crore towards the construction cost. The current allocation of Rs. 6 Crore cannot meet the need as per the government's own guidelines.

Allocation towards Construction of Anganwadi Centres under ICDS Mission Mode (Rs. Crore)					
	2021-22 (BE)	2021-22 (RE)	2022-23 (BE)	2022-23 (RE)	2023-24 (BE)
State Share	8.00	0.00	3.20	0.00	2.40
Central Share	12.00	0.00	4.80	0.00	3.60

² <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1776876>

Functioning of Crèche Schemes/ शिशु गृह/क्रेच का संचालन is another centrally sponsored scheme of utmost importance which goes a long way in promoting women's workforce participation as well as ensuring safety and well-being of their children while they go to work. Unfortunately, the scheme has observed a reduced allocation of 16.67 per cent with total allocation of only Rs. 1.45 Crore as against the allocation of Rs. 1.74 Crore in FY 2022-23. What is more, a comparison of allocation as against the FY 2021-22, it reveals that the allocations towards this scheme has gone down by massive 42 per cent in 2023-24. A further bifurcation of the allocation between the Central Share and State Share reveals that the Central Share has been on a decline since FY 2021-22.

Allocation towards Functioning of Crèche Scheme (Rs. Crore)					
	2021-22 (BE)	2021-22 (RE)	2022-23 (BE)	2022-23 (RE)	2023-24 (BE)
State Share	1.00	0.17	0.58	0.58	0.58
Central Share	1.50	0.34	1.16	0.87	0.87

KEY FLAGSHIP STATE SCHEMES IN RAJASTHAN FOR ECCD

Mukhyamantri Bal Gopal Yojana has been initiated in the state of Rajasthan to provide milk to all the students upto class 8th in all the schools. The scheme is aimed towards improving the nutritional requirements of school going children. While for the purpose of achieving the objective of this scheme, the powdered milk is being provided by the Rajasthan Co-Operative Federation Ltd. (RCDF)³, School Management Committees have been given the responsibility of ensuring that all the children receive milk right after the prayer meeting at school. Below is the prescribed norms under this scheme:

Mukhyamantri Bal Gopal Yojana has received Rs. 864 Crore in the State Budget 2023-24.

क्र.सं.	कक्षा स्तर	पाउडर मिल्क की मात्रा (प्रति छात्र)	तैयार दूध की मात्रा (प्रति छात्र)	बी-बी की मात्रा
1	प्राथमिक (कक्षा 1 से 5)	15 ग्राम	150 ml	8.4 ग्राम
2	उच्च प्राथमिक (कक्षा 6 से 8)	20 ग्राम	200 ml	10.2 ग्राम



राजस्थान सरकार
आयुक्तालय
मिड डे मील योजना
(Mid Day Meal Scheme)



क्रमांक: एफ.4 (393) प्रा.शि. / मु.मं.बाल गोपाल योजना / 2022 / 1051
जिला कलेक्टर
समस्त।

दिनांक 27/01/2023

विषय:- मुख्यमंत्री बाल गोपाल योजनान्तर्गत विद्यार्थियों को मंगलवार के स्थान पर बुधवार को दूध वितरण के सम्बन्ध में।

प्रसंग:- एफ.4 (393) एमडीएम/मु.मं.बाल गोपाल योजना/2022-23 / 245 दिनांक 27.06.2022

उपर्युक्त विषयान्तर्गत एवं प्रासंगिक पत्र द्वारा मुख्यमंत्री बाल गोपाल योजना के क्रियान्वयन के सम्बन्ध में विस्तृत दिशा-निर्देश जारी किये गये हैं। उक्त निर्देशों के बिन्दु संख्या 4.2 के अनुसार विद्यार्थियों को मंगलवार एवं शुक्रवार को दूध उपलब्ध कराये जाने के निर्देश दिये गये थे।

योजनान्तर्गत निर्धारित दिवस में आंशिक परिवर्तन करते हुये अब विद्यार्थियों को पाउडर मिल्क से तैयार दूध मंगलवार के स्थान पर बुधवार को उपलब्ध कराया जाना है। अतः सप्ताह में दो दिवस बुधवार एवं शुक्रवार को पाउडर मिल्क से तैयार दूध विद्यार्थियों को उपलब्ध कराये जाने हेतु सम्बन्धित को आवश्यक निर्देश प्रदान करने का श्रम करें।

³ <https://jaipur.rajasthan.gov.in/scheme/detail/1069>

Mukhyamantri Rajshree Yojana was launched in 2016-17 with the objective to promote positive mindset towards girl children and to promote their physical and educational well-being. Under this scheme, a total sum of Rs. 50,000 is awarded to the parents where girl child is born after June 1, 2016. This benefit is provided in phased manner and will be in addition to other schemes running concurrently. Surprisingly, a scheme of this significance has observed no change in the allocation in the State Budget 2023-24 with total allocation of Rs. 320 Crore. As compared to an allocation of Rs. 300 Crore in FY 2021-22, there is a mere 6 per cent increase in the allocations made in FY 2023-24.

Priyadarshini Day Care Scheme has been announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in his Budget Speech of FY 2023-24. This scheme is being launched with the objective to provide day care facility for children of working women. While the guidelines of this scheme is yet to be published, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced for setting up of 500 Day care Centres under this scheme. To begin with, this scheme has received an allocation of Rs. 20 Crore in FY 2023-24 Budget.

The Chief Minister of the State of Rajasthan has started the **Mukhyamantri Shubhalakshmi Yojana** Rajasthan on April 1, 2013 in order to improve the rate of child sex ratio of the state and to change the negative thinking in the society towards the girl child. Those born after April 1, 2013, have been announced financial assistance every year, so that the daughters of these poor families can increase their education and their upbringing, which will reduce the female child sex ratio and female feticide in the state of Rajasthan. In the State Budget 2023-24, this scheme has received Rs. 40 Crore as against the allocation of Rs. 16.4 Crore in FY 2022-23. The increase of whopping 143 per cent in the allocation for this scheme reflects the commitment of the State Government to improve the status of girls in the State.

Maa-Baadi Day Care Yojana has been initiated under the mandate of Tribal Area Development Department in the State of Rajasthan. The benefits of the scheme is targeted towards children belonging to Maada and Sahariya tribes. Collectively, for setting-up and running of Maa-Baadi Day Care Centres, the State Government has allocated a total sum of Rs. 156 Crore in 2023-24 Budget as against the allocation of Rs. 113 Crore in FY 2022-23 at BE stage. As per the State Govt., a total of 2582 such day care centres are functioning across 12 districts of Rajasthan.⁴

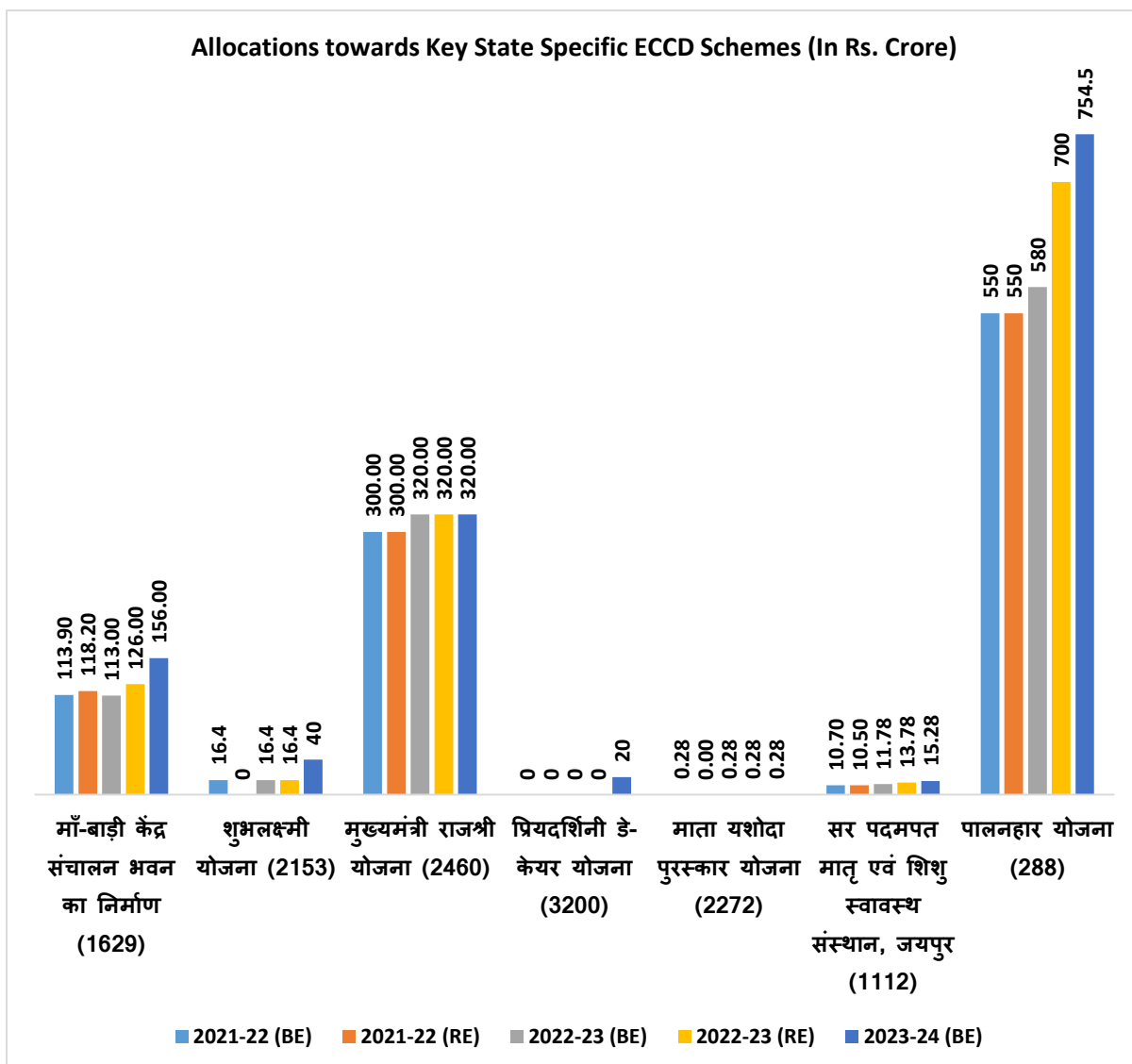
Paalanhar Yojana was launched to take care the nutritional and developmental needs of orphan children in the State where instead of institutionalising such children, provisions were made to place these identified children with their relatives to receive the familial care. The scheme has observed an upward trend in terms of financial allocations with a total allocation of Rs. 754.5 Crore in the State Budget of 2023-24. In FY 2022-23, this scheme was allocated Rs. 580 Crore.

Schemes with Increased Allocations in Rajasthan Budget 2023-24 (In Rs. Crore)				
योजना का नाम	2022-23 (BE)	2022-23 (RE)	2023-24 (BE)	% Change (2022-23 BE to 2023-24 BE)
जनजाति कल्याण निधि के अन्तर्गत अनुसूचित क्षेत्र के माँ-बाड़ी केंद्र भवन का निर्माण (1629)	1.00	6.00	16.00	1500
जनजाति कल्याण निधि के अन्तर्गत अनुसूचित क्षेत्र के माँ-बाड़ी केंद्र संचालन (1511)	96.00	103.00	115.00	19.79
जनजाति कल्याण निधि के अन्तर्गत माडा क्षेत्र के माँ-बाड़ी केंद्र संचालन (1829)	6.00	7.00	10.00	66.67

⁴ https://tad.rajasthan.gov.in/Content/Hindi/MotherBodyCareCenterListhindi.aspx?menu_id=10093

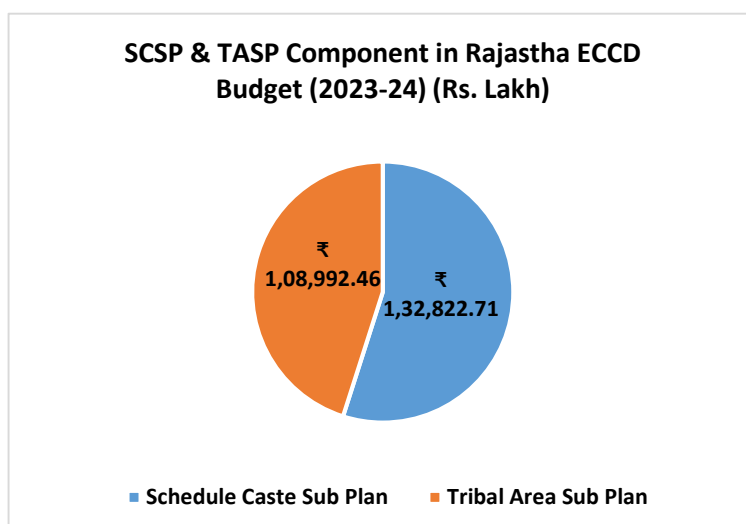
जनजाति कल्याण निधि के अन्तर्गत सहरिया जनजाति के लिए माँ-बाड़ी केंद्र संचालन (1577)	10.00	10.00	15.00	50.00
सहरिया विकास की सी.सी.डी. योजना अन्तर्गत/नवचार माँ-बाड़ी केंद्र संचालन (1725)	0.0001	0	0.0001	0.00
शुभलक्ष्मी योजना (2153)	16.4	16.4	40	143.90
बेटी बचाओ -बेटी पढ़ाओ (2352)	0.25	4.36	4.14	1584.47
मुख्यमंत्री बाल गोपाल योजना (3132)	0	0	864.00	
इंदिरा गांधी मातृत्व पोषण योजन (icds) (2856)	0.6	15	115	19066.67
पूरक पोषाहार (391)	900	1100	1205	33.89
प्रधानमंत्री मातृत्व वंदना योजना (2651)	127.68	127.68	189.68	48.56
प्रियदर्शिनी डे-केयर योजना (3200)	0	0	20	
समेकित बाल विकास सेवाएं (आई.सी. डी. एस.) (1230)	1241.85	1325.25	1314.66	5.86
सर पदमपत मातृ एवं शिशु स्वास्थ्य संस्थान, जयपुर (1112)	11.78	13.78	15.28	29.72
पालनहार योजना (288)	580	700	754.5	30.09

Schemes with Reduced Allocations in Rajasthan Budget 2023-24 (In Rs. Crore)				
योजना का नाम	2022-23 (BE)	2022-23 (RE)	2023-24 (BE)	% Change (2022-23 BE to 2023-24 BE)
सहरिया विकास की सी.सी.डी. योजना अन्तर्गत/नवचार माँ-बाड़ी केंद्र संचालन (1725)	0.0001	0	0.0001	0.00
शिशु गृह/क्रेच का संचालन (2543)	1.74	1.45	1.45	-16.67
राजकीय अस्पतालों में नवजात बालिकाओं को बेबी किट वितरण (2738)	0.0003	0	0	Discontinued
समुदाय आधारित अतिकुपोषित बच्चों का प्रबंधन (2370)	0.0003	0	0	Discontinued
राजस्थान दुग्ध पोषाहार कार्यक्रम (मिड डे मील) (2670)	0.0003	0	0	Discontinued
राष्ट्रीय पोषाहार सहायता कार्यक्रम- मिड डे मील (530)	1450.05	1700.39	1339.69	-7.61
आँगनवाड़ी भवन का निर्माण (392)	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.00
आँगनवाड़ी केंद्र अपग्रेडेशन एवं रख रखाव मय क्रेच निर्माण आई.सी. डी. एस. मिशन मोड (1762)	9.1	0	6.00	-34.06
आई.सी. डी. एस. मिशन मोड के अन्तर्गत आँगनवाड़ी केंद्र भवनों का निर्माण (1761)	8.00	0.00	6.00	-25.00
राष्ट्रीय पोषाहार मिशन (2650)	215.55	167.05	127.83	-40.70



A Glimpse into Schedule Caste Sub Plan and Tribal Area Sub Plan Allocation towards ECCD Schemes

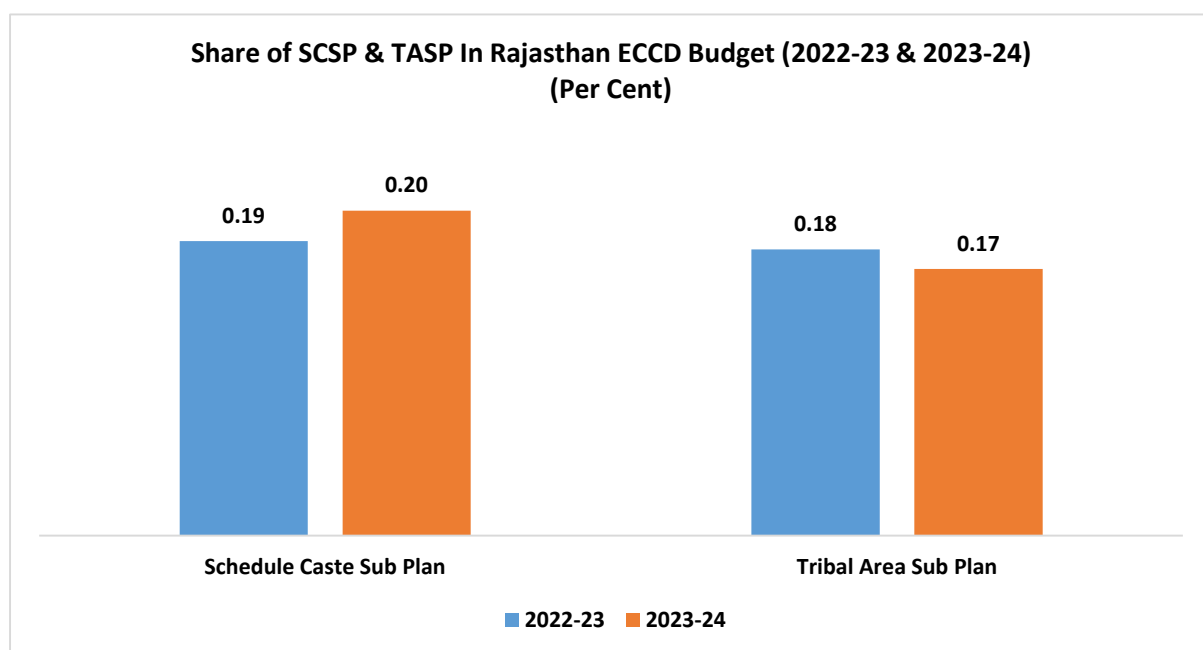
In the State of Rajasthan, Schedule Caste population constitutes of 17.8 per cent of the total State population whereas Schedule Tribe constitutes of 13.5 per cent of the total population. With a State of such diverse population cohorts, many of the schemes receive allocations from Schedule Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Area Sub Plan (TASP). It is pertinent to examine the Budget allocations from the perspective of allocation



within these two categories of funds. In the State Budget 2023-24, a total sum of Rs. 132822.71 Lakh were provided under the SCSP component whereas Rs. 108992.46 Lakh were provided under the TASP component under various ECCD Schemes being governed by either State Government solely or by State and Centre on a sharing basis.

Distribution of Funds between Schedule Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Area Sub Plan (TASP) for ECCD Schemes in Rajasthan Budget (In Rs. Lakh)		
Year	Schedule Caste Sub Plan	Tribal Area Sub Plan
2022-23	₹ 92,862.26	₹ 90,196.74
2023-24	₹ 1,32,822.71	₹ 1,08,992.46

Further, a deeper examination into the share of these two components reveal that SCSP component constitutes of 0.20 per cent of the total ECCD Budget in Rajasthan State Budget 2023-24, whereas TASP component constituted of 0.17 per cent of the total ECCD Budget 2023-24 at BE stage.



Scheme-Wise Distribution of Funds between Schedule Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Area Sub Plan (TASP) (In Rs. Lakh)				
योजना का नाम	2022-23 BE		2023-24 BE	
	Schedule Caste Sub Plan	Tribal Area Sub Plan	Schedule Caste Sub Plan	Tribal Area Sub Plan
जनजाति कल्याण निधि के अन्तर्गत अनुसूचित क्षेत्र के माँ-बाड़ी केंद्र भवन का निर्माण (1629)	0	100	0	1600
जनजाति कल्याण निधि के अन्तर्गत अनुसूचित क्षेत्र के माँ-बाड़ी केंद्र संचालन (1511)	0	9600	0	11500
जनजाति कल्याण निधि के अन्तर्गत माडा क्षेत्र के माँ-बाड़ी केंद्र संचालन (1829)	0	600	0	1000
जनजाति कल्याण निधि के अन्तर्गत सहरिया जनजाति के लिए माँ-बाड़ी केंद्र संचालन (1577)	0	1000	0	1500

सहरिया विकास की सी.सी.डी. योजना अन्तर्गत/नवचार माँ-बाड़ी केंद्र संचालन (1725)	0	0.01	0	0.01
शिशु गृह/क्रेच का संचालन (2543)	30	24	25	20
राजकीय अस्पतालों में नवजात बालिकाओं को बेबी किट वितरण (2738)	0.01	0.01	0	0
शुभलक्ष्मी योजना (2153)	293	222	715	540
समुदाय आधारित अतिकुपोषित बच्चों का प्रबंधन (2370)	0.01	0.01	0	0
बेटी बचाओ -बेटी पढ़ाओ (2352)	0	0	0.02	0.02
मुख्यमंत्री राजश्री योजना (2460)	5800	4400	5800	4400
मुख्यमंत्री बाल गोपाल योजना (3132)	0	0	18900	16500
राजस्थान दुग्ध पोषाहार कार्यक्रम (मिड डे मील) (2670)	0.01	0.01	0	0
राष्ट्रीय पोषाहार सहायता कार्यक्रम- मिड डे मील (530)	22960	29478.4	22540	17880
आँगनवाड़ी भवन का निर्माण (392)	0	0	0	0
आँगनवाड़ी केंद्र अपग्रेडेशन एवं रख रखाव मय क्रेच निर्माण आई.सी. डी. एस. मिशन मोड (1762)	250	160	102.02	78.02
आई.सी. डी. एस. मिशन मोड के अन्तर्गत आँगनवाड़ी केंद्र भवनों का निर्माण (1761)	170	130	102	78
इंदिरा गांधी मातृत्व पोषण योजन (icds) (2856)	0	60	1495	1955
पूरक पोषाहार (391)	45000	15000	60500	20000
प्रधानमंत्री मातृत्व वंदना योजना (2651)	2025.81	1870.71	2875.81	2720.71
प्रियदर्शिनी डे-केयर योजना (3200)	0	0	500	300
राष्ट्रीय पोषाहार मिशन (2650)	3833.42	2898.19	2267.86	1714.57
समेकित बाल विकास सेवाएं (आई.सी. डी. एस.) (1230)	0	16153.4	0	17206.13
सर पदमपत मातृ एवं शिशु स्वास्थ्य संस्थान, जयपुर (1112)	0	0	0	0
पालनहार योजना (288)	12500	8500	17000	10000
GRAND TOTAL	92862.26	90196.74	132822.71	108992.46

Key Recommendations:

1. The allocation for Upgradation and Maintenance of Anganwadi Centres and Construction of Creche has received inadequate allocations in the State Budget 2023-24 which will hinder the overall development of children who are supposed to receive the benefits of these scheme. Therefore, we demand that the allocations for this scheme be revised adequately to cater the growing concerns of nutritional needs of early childhood care and development.
2. The allocation for Construction of ICDS Centres under the Mission Mode has also received inadequate allocation when compared with the government guidelines for construction costs of Anganwadi Centres. Therefore, we demand that this budget head be revised to accommodate the remaining non-functional Anganwadi Centres in the State.

3. The current ECCD budget statement does not reflect the allocations made towards Pre-Schooling. While the National Education Policy has envisioned the pre-schooling as one of the most crucial stage of development, the corresponding budget head and allocations are much required to be reflected in the Budget Statement. This will ensure achieving the goals of NEP in spirit as well as on the ground.
4. The Scheme for setting up and functioning of Crèche facilities has received significant reduction in the Budget 2023-24. Whereas the lived experiences out of COVID-19 has reflected that livelihood has become one of the major challenges in survival and ensuring well-being. More families, including women are forced to join the workforce in order to ensure the sustenance of their families. In such scenario, non-availability of funds for Crèche facility puts their children directly at risk as they have no one to look after. Therefore, in order to ensure child safety and well-being, we demand that the Crèche Scheme be universalised in the whole State with adequate infrastructure as well as funding support.