

An Analysis of Early Childhood Care & Development Financing in Uttar Pradesh Budget 2023-24



Major Highlights of the Uttar Pradesh Early Childhood Care & Development Budget 2023-24

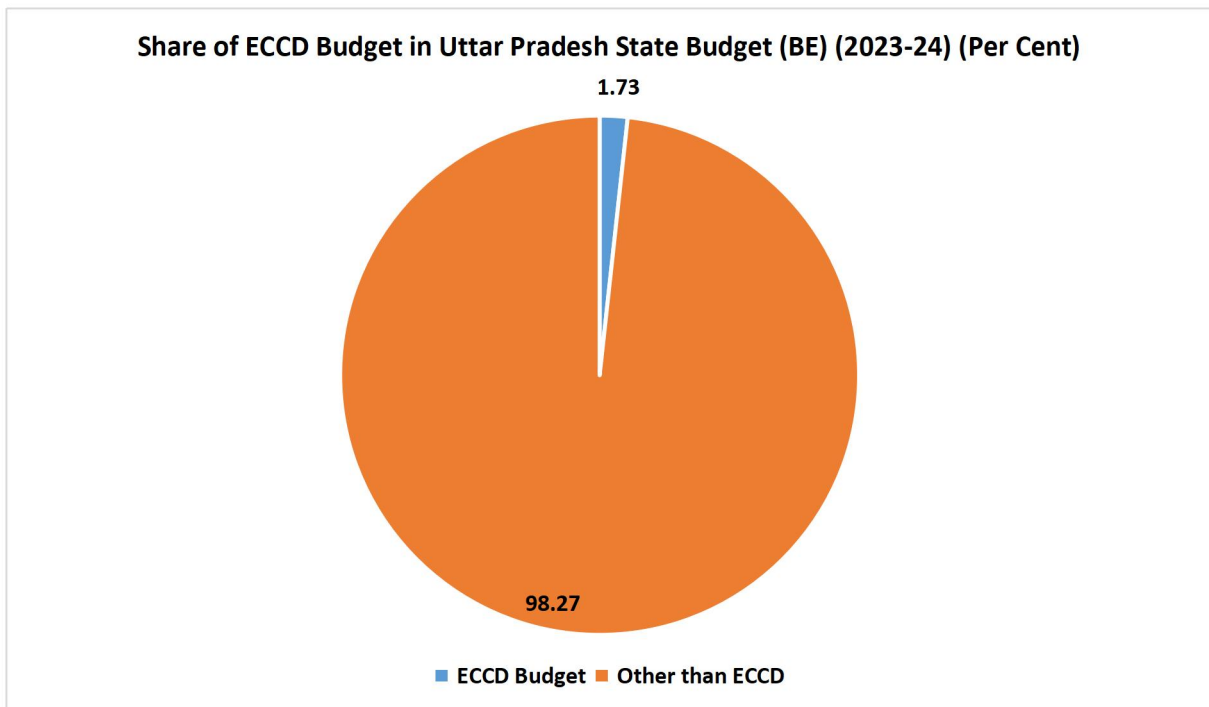
Uttar Pradesh is India's one of the largest states in terms of population density with a total population of 19.98 Crore, out of which 15.41 per cent population belongs to children in the age group of 0-6 years. The Union Government as well as the Uttar Pradesh State Government administers numerous programmes towards early childhood care and development. Apart from the welfare programmes, early childhood is one of the most crucial stages of development in the total life cycle, which makes it even more imperative to monitor the efficacy of the government programmes. Moreover, several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and corresponding targets are closely linked with early childhood care and development, making it a significant stage in determining the indicators of human development. The Government Budgets are one of the basic documents which could elaborate on the government's effort to address the concerns of early childhood care and development through monetary allocations and expenditures.

Major Announcements in the Uttar Pradesh State Budget 2023-24

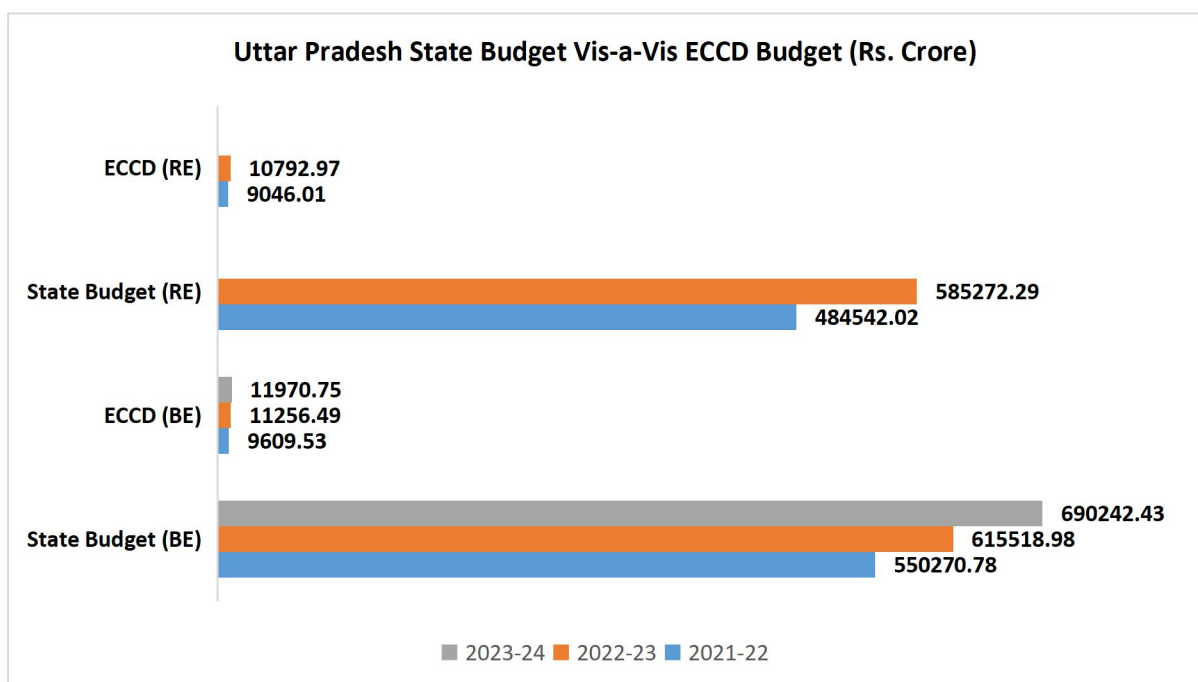
- During the FY 2023-24, **Pradhanmantri Matri Vandan Yojana** has been allocated INR 320 Crore.
- **Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan** has been allocated INR 20,255 Crore.
- Children in the age group of 06 months to 06 years, pregnant and lactating women in the State are being provided Supplementary nutrition in the form of Take Home Ration (THR) through NAFED and nutritious food production units set up under **the Uttar Pradesh Rural Employment Mission** (उत्तर प्रदेश ग्रामीण आजीविका मिशन). In the State, approximately 1.85 lakh beneficiaries are receiving the benefits of this scheme. In the State Budget for FY 2023-24, INR 291 Crore has been allocated towards this scheme.
- **Health Insurance for Anganwaadi Workers** under the Ayushman Bharat has been provisioned with a total allocation of INR 25 Crore.
- The **National Nutrition Mission** was initiated with the objective to reduce the level of malnutrition among children upto 6 years and to reduce anaemia among children in the age group of 6 months to 59 months, pregnant and lactating women. In the Budget 2023-24, INR 455.52 Crore have been allocated towards this scheme.
- Under **Matritva Shishu Evam Baalika Madad Yojna**, in the case of institutional delivery of registered woman worker/ labourer receives amount equivalent to three months' salary in addition to INR 1000 as Medical Bonus. Similarly, in the case of institutional delivery of the wives of registered male worker/labourer, lump-sum amount of INR 6000 has been provisioned to be awarded. Additionally, upon the birth of maximum two children, a sum of INR 20000 will be deposited towards the birth of male child and INR 25000 to be deposited towards the birth of girl child, which will mature at the age of attainment of 18 years for both boy and girl child.
- Under **Mukhyamantri Sumangla Yojana**, INR 15000 is awarded to every girl child. In the FY 2023-24, INR 1050 Crore have been allocated towards this scheme.

--- Excerpts from the Budget Speech 2023-24

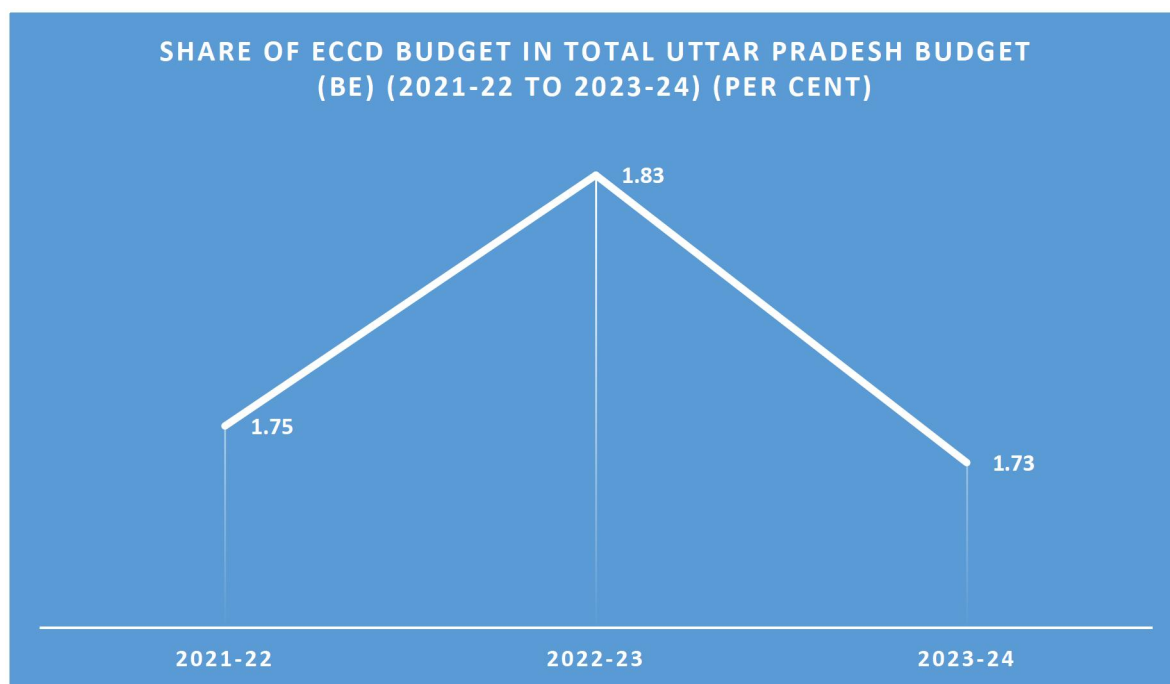
The Early Childhood Care and Development received 1.73 per cent share in the total Uttar Pradesh Budget for 2023-24.



The total allocation for ECCD component in the Uttar Pradesh Budget in FY 2023-24 stands at INR 11970.43 Crore at BE stage targeted towards various welfare schemes. The current allocation is 6.35 per cent increase as against the BE of FY 2022-23 and 10.91 per cent increase as against the revised allocation at RE stage in FY 2022-23.



However, it is pertinent to note that the ECCD component has observed the declining trend in terms of share in the total State Budget during FY 2021-22 and 2022-23.



The declining trend of share of ECCD component is a concern especially in the context of overall volume of the State Budget. In other words, while the overall UP State Budget increased by 12.14 per cent from 2022-23 to 2023-24, the allocations towards ECCD component increased by only 6.35 per cent during the same period. This reflects on disproportionate increase in the ECCD budget as compared to the overall State Budget.

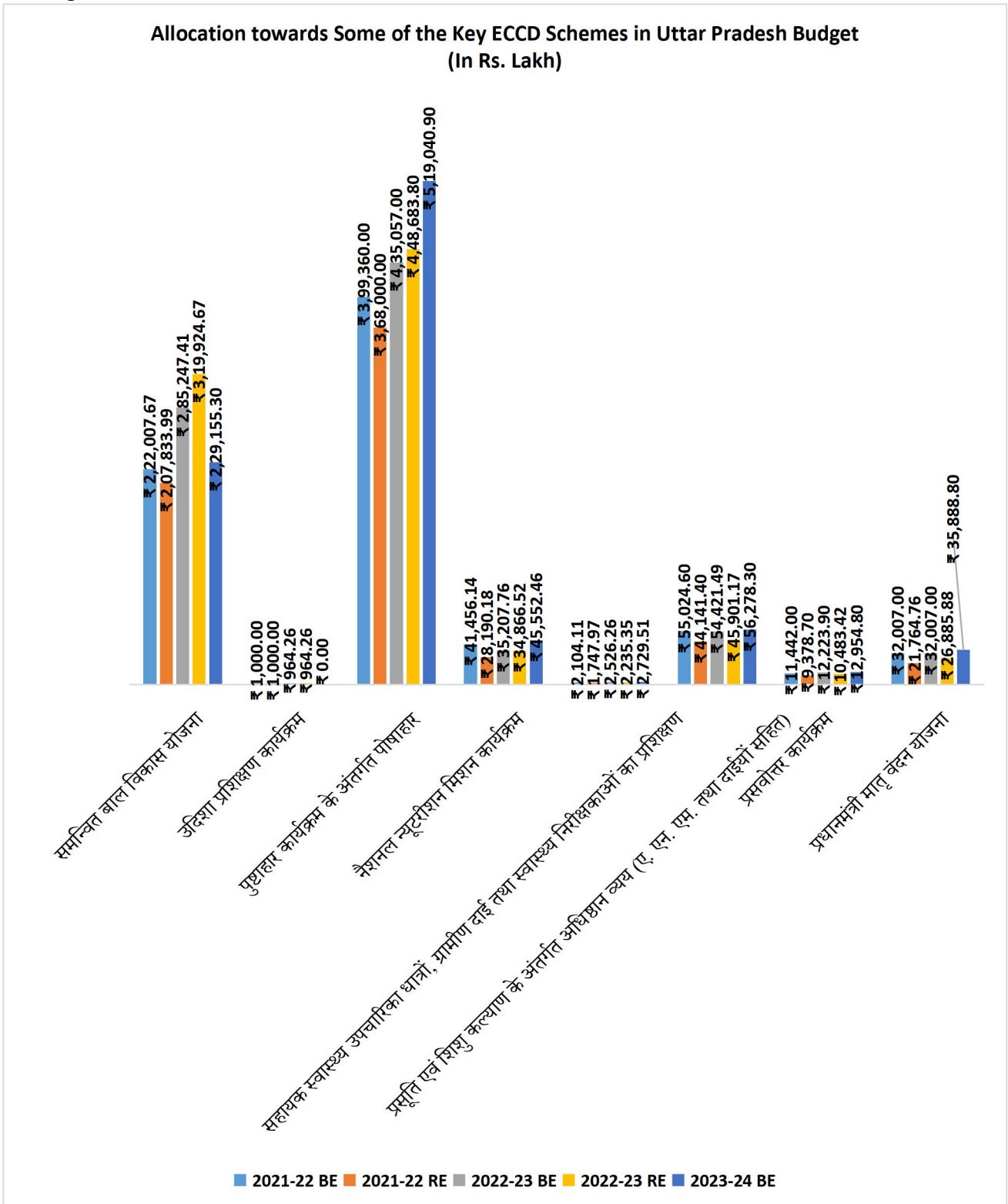
There is a welcome allocation of INR 2500 Lakh towards providing the **Health Insurance to Anganwadi Workers** under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme. The inclusion of this scheme has been introduced in the current State Budget i.e. budget for FY 2023-24.

The **provision of Take Home Ration** under the State Rural Employment Mission has been allocated a total sum of INR 29148 Lakh. This is another welcome addition in the current State Budget which will benefit children in the age group of 0-6 years.

The scheme for Supplementary Nutrition, a scheme with 50:50 fund sharing pattern between the Centre and the State has been allocated INR 3658.90 Lakh in the FY 2023-24. It is a welcome increase of 64.37 per cent as against the allocation made at the revised stage (RE) in the State Budget of FY 2022-23.

The Pradhanmantri Matri Vandan Yojana, one of the flagship schemes for pregnant and lactating women received a total allocation of INR 35888.80 Lakh at BE stage in State Budget 2023-24 as against the allocation of INR 32007 at BE stage in FY 2022-23. This is a significant increase of 12.13 percent as compared to the previous year.

The allocation for Training of Auxiliary Health Nurse Midwives, Rural Midwives and Health Inspectors (सहायक स्वास्थ्य उपचारिका धात्रों, ग्रामीण दाई तथा स्वास्थ्य निरीक्षकाओं का प्रशिक्षण) received the total allocation of INR 2729.51 Lakh (8.05 % increase against the FY 2022-23) in the State Budget 2023-24.



The allocation for various component under the Integrated Child Development Scheme has been reduced by 19.66 per cent at BE stage as against the allocations made in FY 2022-23. In the current Budget, the total allocation for ICDS and related components stands at INR 229155.30 Lakh. What is more, there has been an under-expenditure of 30 per cent under this scheme as compared to the allocations made in FY 2021-22. In FY 2021-22, the ICDS and allied components received allocation of INR 222007.67 Lakh at BE stage, which was further reduced to INR 207833.99 Lakh at RE stage (6.39% reduction). Out of the total allocation at BE stage, only INR 153823.15 Lakh (69.29%) were utilised.

The scheme for deputing district level workforce for Integrated Child Development (**समन्वित बाल विकास के लिये जिला स्तरीय स्टाफ की व्यवस्था**) has been discontinued in the current State Budget.

The allocation for managing the Training Centres under the Udisha Training Programme for Anganwaadi Workers [**आँगनबाड़ी कार्यकर्त्री आदि के प्रशिक्षण हेतू प्रशिक्षण केंद्रों के संचालन (उदिशा प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम)**], a scheme with 60:40 fund sharing pattern between Centre and State has been discontinued in the current State Budget 2023-24.

A total sum of INR 80375.4 lakh has been allocated towards **Honorarium for Anganwadi Workers and Helpers** in the State Budget 2023-24. The current allocation is 0.43 per cent decrease as against the allocation made in the FY 2022-23 at BE stage, which remained the same at RE stage as well. Although the FY 2022-23 was a welcome FY in terms of allocations for Anganwadi workers and helpers especially in the context of their protest, which was eventually called-off after an assurance from the State Government wrt their demand to increase in their Honorarium. In FY 2022-23, the total allocation towards Honorarium stood at INR 80724.15 Lakh, a whopping 190 per cent increase as against the allocations of FY 2021-22.

The scheme for Establishment of Anganwadi Centers under Multi-Sectoral District Plan in minority dominated districts (**अल्पसंख्यक बाहुल्य जनपदों में मल्टी सेक्टरल डिस्ट्रिक्ट प्लान के अंतर्गत आँगनबाड़ी केंद्रों की स्थापना**), a scheme with 60:40 fund sharing pattern received an increased allocation of 9.75 per cent as against the previous budget with the total allocation of INR 439 Lakh.

The Postpartum Programme in the State of Uttar Pradesh (**प्रसवोत्तर कार्यक्रम**) received an increased allocation of INR 12954.8 Lakh (5.98% increase) in the FY 2023-24.

There is a welcome increase of 80.62 per cent (INR 33000 Lakh) for the amount reimbursed by the state government to ASHA workers, urban ASHAs and ASHA companions (**आशा कार्यकर्त्री, शहरी आशा और आशा संगिनियों को राज्य सरकार द्वारा प्रतिपूर्ति की धनराशि में वृद्धि**) in the State Budget 2023-24.

The **Mukhyamantri Sakhsham Suposhan Yojana** did not observe any change in allocation in State Budget 2023-24 as the allocation remained at INR 10000 Lakh at BE stage.

Schemes With Increased Allocations in State Budget 2023-24 (INR Lakh)					
Department	Scheme Name	2022-23 (BE)	2022-23 (RE)	2023-24 (BE)	% Increase/Decrease against 2022-23
महिला एवं बाल कल्याण विभाग	समन्वित बाल विकास योजना के अंतर्गत वेतन का भुगतान	50470.89	42688.15	42408.4	-15.98
	पुष्पाहार कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत समन्वित बाल विकास परियोजनाओं पर राज्य सरकार द्वारा दिया जाने वाला पोषाहार (के. 60/रा 40- के.)	167528.5	167528.5	205421	22.62
	उत्तर प्रदेश मुख्यमंत्री बाल सेवा योजना एवं उत्तर प्रदेश मुख्यमंत्री बाल सेवा योजना [सामान्य (गैर वेतन)]	6000	6000	12000	100.00
	पुष्पाहार कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत समन्वित बाल विकास परियोजनाओं पर राज्य सरकार द्वारा दिया जाने वाला पोषाहार (सामग्री एवं संपूर्ति)	167528.5	167528.5	205421	22.62
	नैशनल न्यूट्रीशन मिशन कार्यक्रम (अन्य व्यय)	7041.55	11206.9	18220.98	158.76
अल्पसंख्यक कल्याण विभाग	अल्पसंख्यक बाहुल्य जनपदों में मल्टी सेक्टरल डिस्ट्रिक्ट प्लान के अंतर्गत आँगनबाड़ी केंद्रों की स्थापना (के.60/रा.40-के.) (वृहत निर्माण कार्य)	240	216	263.4	9.75
	अल्पसंख्यक बाहुल्य जनपदों में मल्टी सेक्टरल डिस्ट्रिक्ट प्लान के अंतर्गत आँगनबाड़ी केंद्रों की स्थापना (केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजनाओं का संगत राज्यांश) (वृहत निर्माण कार्य)	160	144	175.6	9.75
समाज कल्याण विभाग (अनुसूचित जातियों के लिये विशेष घटक योजना)	पुष्पाहार कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत समन्वित बाल विकास परियोजनाओं पर राज्य सरकार द्वारा दिए जाने वाला पोषाहार (के.50/रा.50-के.) (अन्य व्यय) (केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजना)	50000	42000	54099.45	8.20
	पुष्पाहार कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत समन्वित बाल विकास परियोजनाओं पर राज्य सरकार द्वारा दिया जाने वाला पोषाहार (अन्य व्यय)	50000	71626.8	54099.45	8.20
चिकित्सा विभाग (परिवार कल्याण)	बाल संजीवन एवं सुरक्षित मातृत्व योजनांतर्गत सृजित राज्य एवं जिला स्तरीय ईकाइयाँ (के. 60/ रा.40-के.)	1491.88	1279.36	1659	11.20
	बाल संजीवन एवं सुरक्षित मातृत्व योजनांतर्गत सृजित राज्य एवं जिला स्तरीय ईकाइयाँ (राज्य अंश)	992.32	850.96	1060.7	6.89
	सहायक स्वास्थ्य उपचारिका धात्रों, ग्रामीण दाई तथा स्वास्थ्य निरीक्षकाओं का प्रशिक्षण (के. 60/ रा.40-के.)	1658.32	1483.78	1780.47	7.37
	सहायक स्वास्थ्य उपचारिका धात्रों, ग्रामीण दाई तथा स्वास्थ्य निरीक्षकाओं का प्रशिक्षण (राज्य अंश)	867.94	751.57	949.04	9.34
	प्रसूति एवं शिशु कल्याण के अंतर्गत अधिष्ठान व्यय (ए. एन. एम. तथा दाईयों सहित)(के. 100/ रा.00-के.)	32588.69	27478.29	33685.9	3.37
	प्रसूति एवं शिशु कल्याण के अंतर्गत अधिष्ठान व्यय (ए. एन. एम. तथा दाईयों सहित) (राज्य अंश)	21832.8	18422.88	22592.4	3.48
	प्रसवोत्तर कार्यक्रम (के. 60/ रा.40-के.)	7334.5	6290.21	7747	5.62
	प्रसवोत्तर कार्यक्रम (राज्य अंश)	4889.4	4193.21	5207.8	6.51
	प्रधानमंत्री मातृ वंदन योजना (के. 60/ रा.40-के.)	3528.64	2964.06	3881	9.99
	आशा कार्यकर्त्री, शहरी आशा और आशा संगिनियों को राज्य सरकार द्वारा प्रतिपूर्ति की धनराशि में वृद्धि	30000	25200	33000	10.00
	प्रधानमंत्री मातृ वंदन योजना (राज्य अंश)	28478.36	23921.82	32007.8	12.39

On the other hand, there are a few schemes of ECCD component which received reduced allocations in the current FY 2023-24.

Schemes With Reduced Allocations in State Budget 2023-24 (INR Lakh)					
Department	Scheme Name	2022-23 (BE)	2022-23 (RE)	2023-24 (BE)	% Increase/ Decrease against 2022-23
महिला एवं बाल कल्याण विभाग	समन्वित बाल विकास योजना (के. 60/रा 40- के.)	123023.12	123023.12	83700.88	-31.96
	नैशनल न्यूट्रीशन मिशन कार्यक्रम (के. 80/रा 20- के.)	28166.21	23659.62	27331.48	-2.96
	कन्या सुमंगला योजना [सहायता अनुदान -सामान्य (गैर वेतन)]	120000	120000	105000	-12.50
	फूड सेक्युरिटी ऐक्ट केश अलाउंस (अन्य व्यय)	0.01	0.01	0	-100.00
	ऑगनबाड़ी कार्यकर्त्रियों एवं सहायिकाओं को मानदेय	80724.15	8724.15	80375.4	-0.43
	समन्वित बाल विकास योजना (केंद्र प्रायोजित योजनाओं का संगत राज्यांश) (केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजनाओं की धनराशि का एस. एन. ए का अंतरण)	111753.4	111753.4	55800.58	-50.07
	समन्वित बाल विकास के लिये जिला स्तरीय स्टाफ की व्यवस्था (केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजनाओं की धनराशि का एस. एन. ए का अंतरण)	1077.57	1077.57	0	-100.00
	ऑगनबाड़ी कार्यकर्त्री आदि के प्रशिक्षण हेतू प्रशिक्षण केंद्रों के संचालन (उदिशा प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम) (प्रशिक्षण हेतू यात्रा एवं अन्य प्रासंगिक व्यय)	385.7	385.7	0	-100.00
	आधार नामांकन किट की व्यवस्था (अन्य व्यय)	0.01	0.01	0	-100.00
	प्रधानमंत्री मातृ वंदन योजना (राज्य अंश)	28478.36	23921.82	32007.8	12.39

National Crèche Scheme (in Uttar Pradesh)

Ministry of Women and Child Development implements the National Crèche Scheme for the children of working mothers as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme through States/ UTs with effect from 01.01.2017 to provide day care facilities to children (age group of 6 months to 6 years) of working mothers. The Scheme provides an integrated package of the following services:¹

- I. Day care facilities including sleeping facilities.
- II. Early stimulation for children below 3 years and pre-school education for 3 to 6 years old children
- III. Supplementary nutrition (to be locally sourced)
- IV. Growth monitoring
- V. Health check-up and immunization

It will be worthwhile exercise to dive deeper into tracing the functioning of Crèche Scheme before 2017. Prior to 2017, this scheme was being implemented as Rajiv Gandhi National Crèche Scheme with a funding pattern of 90:10, where 90% of funds were to be provided from the Union Government and the remaining 10% funds were to be contributed by the

¹ <https://www.pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1697421>

implementing NGOs. Under the erstwhile Rajiv Gandhi National Crèche Scheme (which was into effect up to 31.12.2016), a total of 21,012 Crèches were functional in the country and 1724 Crèches were functional in the State of Uttar Pradesh till the FY 2021-22.² During the period from FY 2017-18 to 2021-22 a sum of INR 4,10,13,960 (four crore ten lakh thirteen thousand nine hundred sixty only) for 1724 crèches have been released to Uttar Pradesh under the scheme.³

On the other hand, with the introduction of the new National Crèche Scheme in 2017, the funding pattern was also revised. As per the revised funding norms, the scheme is being implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) where pattern of assistance for all components of the scheme will be in the cost sharing basis of 60:30:10 amongst Centre, State Governments & NGOs running the crèches, 80:10:10 amongst the Centre, State Governments & NGOs running the crèches for the 8 North Eastern States and 3 Himalayan States and 90:10 between the Central Government and the NGOs running the crèches for the Union Territories. The State Government shall ensure the 10% contribution from the NGOs actually running the crèches and will provide documentary evidence/proof of 10% share.⁴

After the introduction of the new cost sharing norms for implementing the Crèche scheme, there is a sudden drop in the number of functional crèches across the country.

Year	Number of Functional Crèches
2016-17	21012
2017-18	18040
2018-19	8018
2019-20	6458
As on 30.06.2022	5613*

Source:
<https://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/Funtional%20Creche.pdf>
<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1796835>
 *LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 977; Answered on 22.07.2022

One of the major reasons impacting the number of operational crèches could be the sudden shift in the funding pattern. Due to this shift, States do not seem to show the level of interest it requires to implement this scheme. **As per the response to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question, the Minister of Women and Child Development reported that the State of Uttar Pradesh have zero (NIL) operational crèches as on 30.06.2022.**⁵ As the country is

² <https://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/Funtional%20Creche.pdf>

³ <https://www.pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1697421>

⁴ NATIONAL CRECHE SCHEME FOR THE CHILDREN OF WORKING MOTHERS; GoI; Ministry of Women and Child Development;
https://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/National%20Creche%20Scheme%20For%20The%20Children%20of%20Working%20Mothers_0.pdf

⁵ LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 977; Answered on 22.07.2022

celebrating the presidency of G-20, it must be noted with caution that India currently has one of the lowest female labour force participation (FLFP) rates in the world (only 27%), higher only than Saudi Arabia among the G20 countries. With a low proportion of women in the workforce, India is missing out on a potential 18% boost to its gross domestic product by 2025.⁶ A fully functional crèche Scheme goes a long way in enabling and encouraging women’s workforce participation as well as ensuring the child safety and well-being of children on working mothers.

Conclusion

While the State of Uttar Pradesh is focussing majorly in boosting its economy through promoting businesses and investments, the focus on marginalised sections and their well-being cannot be ignored. It is a matter of concern that the overall share of ECCD Budget has seen a declining trend in the State Budget. What is more, reduced allocations towards the some of the key schemes like Honorarium to Anganwaadi Workers and Helpers, Food Security Cash Allowance, Kanya Sumangla Yojana etc. pose a challenge in realising the targets as set out under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the State.

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of Creches
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	96
3	Arunachal Pradesh	72
4	Assam	616
5	Bihar	0
6	Chandigarh (UT)	52
7	Chhattisgarh	0
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu (UT)	0
9	Delhi (NCT) (UT)	53
10	Goa	01
11	Gujarat	58
12	Haryana	90
13	Himachal Pradesh	126
14	Jammu & Kashmir (UT)	561
15	Ladakh (UT)	0
16	Jharkhand	0
17	Karnataka	544
18	Kerala	307
19	Lakshadweep (UT)	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	122
21	Maharashtra	0
22	Manipur	427
23	Meghalaya	40
24	Mizoram	175
25	Nagaland	163
26	Odisha	0
27	Puducherry (UT)	94
28	Punjab	158
29	Rajasthan	76
30	Sikkim	19
31	Tamil Nadu	320
32	Telangana	0
33	Tripura	176
34	Uttar Pradesh	0
35	Uttarakhand	0
36	West Bengal	602

Source: Lok Sabha Unstarred Question 977

⁶ “Government Cuts Funding to National Crèche Scheme, Crippling Lifeline for Poor Working Mothers”; Sanghera Tish; 12 January 2019; IndiaSpend; <https://www.indiaspend.com/government-cuts-funding-to-national-creche-scheme-crippling-lifeline-for-poor-working-mothers/>