

# DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE NEWSLETTER

## कल्याण दर्पण

Quarterly Newsletter (1st Edition)



April , 2025



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE  
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION

[WWW.ANDSSW1.AND.NIC.IN/SOCIALWELFARE/](http://WWW.ANDSSW1.AND.NIC.IN/SOCIALWELFARE/)

# कल्याण दर्पण

## In this Edition

This newsletter provides a comprehensive and insightful overview of key initiatives, policies, and welfare programs aimed at uplifting women, children, senior citizens, and vulnerable communities.

This publication serves as a valuable resource of information for general public, government functionaries, and social activists.

## Message of the Secretary

Dear Readers,

It gives me immense pleasure to introduce the first edition of the Social Welfare Department's newsletter - Kalyan Darpan. This initiative marks a significant step in our commitment to fostering transparency, awareness, and engagement with the community we serve.

The Department of Social Welfare is committed to an enabling and supporting environment for vulnerable sections like Divyangjan, Sr. Citizens, Women, Children, Widows, Destitute, Minorities & Other Backward Classes to lead a dignified life by providing Social Security Pensions and institutional care like Working Women Hostel, Home of children in need of care and protection and in conflict with law, shelter home for divyangjans, Senior Citizens & Destitute women and implementation of social legislations.

We encourage government agencies, NGOs, and the community—to collaborate in building a more equitable society.

Shri. L. Kumar, I.A.S

Secretary, Social Welfare

Andaman & Nicobar Administration

## Highlights

- Message of the Secretary
- Social Security Pension
- Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0
- Success stories
- Mission Vatsalya
- WCD Control Room
- NAPDDR
- Kaleidoscope

*"The true measure of any society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members." – Mahatma Gandhi*

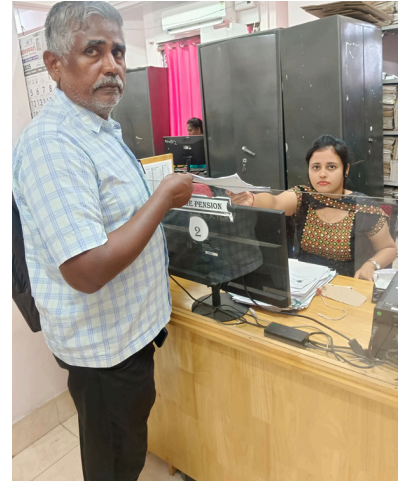


# Social Security Pension Schemes

The Department of Social Welfare provides Social Security Pensions which aimed at providing financial assistance to senior citizens, widows, persons with disabilities, and destitute womens.

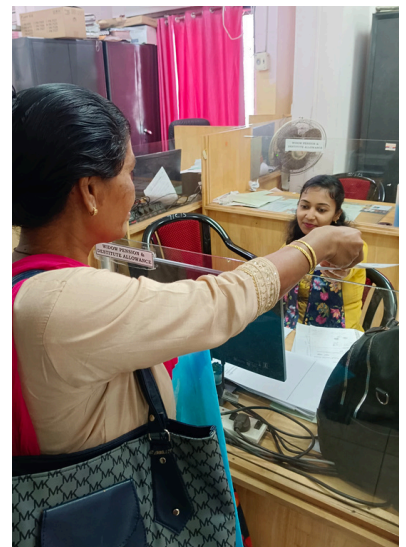
## 1. Old Age Pension

- A resident of these Islands continuously staying for a minimum of 10 years (local certificate/ resident identity card) income less than 48000/-annually.
- Pension amount @ Rs.2500/- P.M for 60 yr above and @ Rs.3000/- P.M for above 80 years and paid 15628 beneficiaries in the month of February 2025.



## 2. Widow Pension:

- Should be a resident of these Islands for a minimum of 10years (local certificate/ resident identity card).
- Income less then 48000/-annually .
- @ Rs. 2500/- per month paid to 7010 beneficiaries in February 2025.



## 3. Disability Pension

- The beneficiary must hold UDID card with 40% and above disability.
- A resident of these Islands continuously staying for a minimum of 10 years (local certificate/ resident identity card) .
- There is no income ceiling for this specific scheme.
- Pension amount @ Rs.2500/- per month and paid 4118 beneficiaries in the month of February 2025.



## 4. Destitute Pension

- A resident of these Islands continuously staying for a minimum of 10 years (local certificate/ resident identity card) income less than 48000/-annually.
- Pension amount @ 2500/- per month and paid 2085 beneficiaries month of February 2025.

## 5. Family Benefit

- To the surviving head of AAY/PHH cardholder families.
- Given upon the death of the primary breadwinner (aged 18-59 years).

# Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0

## "Strengthening Foundations: Saksham Anganwadi Enhancing Early Childhood Development!"

The Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 is an integrated nutrition initiative launched by the Government of India. This initiative aims at improving the nutritional and health status of children from 0-6 years, pregnant women, and lactating mothers, and the main services are:

i) Supplementary Nutrition ii) Growth Monitoring iii) Nutrition & Health Education iv) Immunization v) Referral Services vi) Pre-School Education

There are total 720 Anganwadi centers under 05 projects across the Andaman & Nicobar Islands: The AWCs at each project are: Urban- 207, Ferrargunj - 167, Rangat- 149, Diglipur - 119 & Nicobar- 78

At present 12137 Beneficiaries are being benefited under the scheme and providing supplementary nutrition as Hot Cooked Meal(HCM) along with daily eggs and milk.

Anganwadi centers are provided with growth monitoring devices, smart phones and power banks for monitoring through POSHAN tracker. The initiative also focuses on infrastructure development, digital integration, and capacity-building of Anganwadi workers to enhance the overall quality of services.

### Kuposhan Mukht Abhiyaan

#### Kuposhan Mukht Abhiyaan: A Focused Fight against Malnutrition in A&N Islands

The Kuposhan Mukht District Abhiyaan is a concerted initiative led by the District Administration and Department of Social Welfare, with active collaboration from Health Services, PRIs, NGOs, and CSR partners including PSUs, banks, and private entrepreneurs across the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. This focused campaign under the umbrella of Poshan Abhiyaan aims to eliminate child malnutrition through early identification, community convergence and sustained behavioral change.

The Abhiyaan emphasizes regular growth monitoring, real-time tracking via the Poshan Tracker App, and intensive home visits and counseling sessions to promote improved childcare and nutrition practices.

As of March 2024 the total malnourished children were 1470 which was significantly reduced to 647 by February, 2025. A total of 823 malnourished children were improved with the necessary intervention taken by this Directorate by implementation of Kuposhan Mukht District Abhiyaan, distribution of Poshan Kits, growth monitoring with coordination of RBSK team, strengthening prenatal and postnatal care, medical examination and maintaining individual case files and regular follow-ups of malnourished children played an important role.

*" With growing community involvement and measurable improvements in child nutrition, the islands are steadily progressing towards 'vision of Kuposhan Mukht Andaman & Nicobar, securing a healthier and brighter future for every child in this UT."*

Mr. L Kumar, IAS, Secretary (Social Welfare) of A&N Administration, inaugurated newly constructed Anganwadi Centres

Anganwadi Centre at Kalara, under the ICDS Diglipur Project, N & M Andaman

Anganwadi Centres at Corbyn's Quarry - 2 and Beodnabad under the ICDS Urban Project, South Andaman

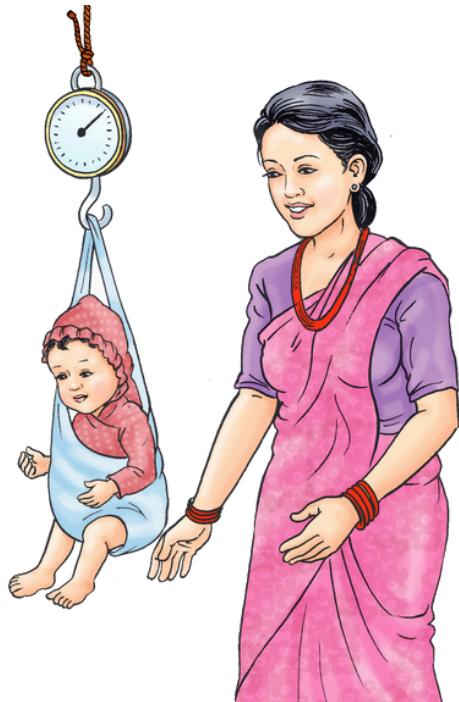




# Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0

"Strengthening Foundations: Saksham Anganwadi Enhancing Early Childhood Development!"

## “Nourishing Hope: A Story of Recovery from Malnutrition”



### Success Story 1

Poshan Abhiyaan support many children to recover from Malnutrition. One such success story is from Kalapather Anganwadi Centre under Ferrargunj ICDS Project, a young boy named Shitij Kujur, born on 10th April 2024, was enrolled at the centre since birth. Despite early enrollment, routine growth monitoring in July 2024 revealed that Shitij was suffering from Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). He had a low appetite, was frequently unwell, and weighed significantly below the healthy range for his age group.

Recognizing the urgent need for intervention, the workers at the Anganwadi Centre acted promptly. From August to December 2024, Shitij was provided with Poshan Kits to supplement his nutritional intake. The Anganwadi Worker (AWW) and Mukhya Sevika conducted regular home visits to monitor progress and offer counselling to his parents, focusing on appropriate feeding practices and hygiene.

In addition, Shitij was referred to the Health & Wellness Centre (HWC), Ferrargunj, where he received necessary medical attention. His health was monitored monthly, with consistent growth tracking and medical check-ups conducted under the supervision of Poshan staff and the Mukhya Sevika.

Thanks to these timely and sustained efforts, Shitij made a remarkable recovery by December 2024. His appetite improved, weight increased steadily, and by early 2025 he has gained normal health status, which he continues to maintain.

Shitij's journey is a powerful reminder of what community care, parental involvement, and proactive health services can achieve. It stands as a success story for the Kalapather AWC team and a beacon of hope for many families facing similar challenges.

### Success Story 2

In a remarkable success story of care and recovery, a 2.5-year-old girl Naira Lakra enrolled in AWC Rest Camp, Mayabunder under Rangat Project has successfully overcome moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and achieved normal growth status, thanks to timely intervention, parental dedication, and continued support from the Anganwadi Centre under Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan Abhiyaan.

The child, who was born with a normal birth weight and no chronic health conditions, began showing signs of poor appetite and slow weight gain by mid-2024. Despite her mother's tireless efforts, her growth remained stagnant, and she was categorized as moderately acute malnourished from June 2024 to January 2025.

Medical consultations led to a treatment plan that included iron supplements, multivitamins, and calcium syrup. At the Anganwadi Centre, she received daily milk, nutritious meals, and snacks as per the prescribed diet additionally poshan kits were also distributed to the child. Her mother followed a consistent home feeding schedule, ensuring that the child received timely meals despite being a slow eater.

Regular growth monitoring at the AWC revealed significant improvement over the months. From weighing 9 kg in June 2024, the child reached 10.8 kg by March 2025, and her height increased from 77 cm to 85.5 cm now. By February 2025, she was declared healthy, with no nutritional deficiencies found in her medical reports.

This case highlights how early identification, nutrition education, and active parental involvement can bring about a life-changing transformation in a child's health. It is a proud achievement for both the family and the Anganwadi team involved.



# Ensuring Child Protection, Welfare and Support: Mission Vatsalya Scheme

## Objectives

Mission Vatsalya is a roadmap to achieve development and child protection priorities aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It lays emphasis on child rights, advocacy and awareness along with strengthening of the juvenile justice care and protection system with the motto to 'leave no child behind'.

The State Child Protection Society (SCPS) established in this UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands under Directorate of Social Welfare, dedicated to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. It focuses on preventing and addressing issues related to child abuse, neglect, exploitation, and ensuring the overall well-being of vulnerable children.

In this UT, there are 11 Child Care Institutions (CCIs) that play a vital role in providing shelter, care, and rehabilitation to children in need of care and Protection and children in conflict with Law.

The State Child Protection Society (SCPS) works in coordination with District Child Protection Units (DCPUs) at South Andaman, DCPU, North & Middle Andaman & DCPU, Nicobar and Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), to strengthen child protection mechanisms at all levels.

### State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA)

To strengthen the adoption framework in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Mission Vatsalya supports the State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA) was constituted on 21.01.2018. to facilitate in-country adoptions.

- SARA functions as the nodal body on adoption matters at state level agency to promote in-country adoption and regulate inter-country adoptions under Section 56 of the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of children) Act, 2015 and Adoption Regulations, 2022.
- SARA also facilitates the In Country and Inter Country Step-Parent Adoption and Relative Parent Adoption under CARA.

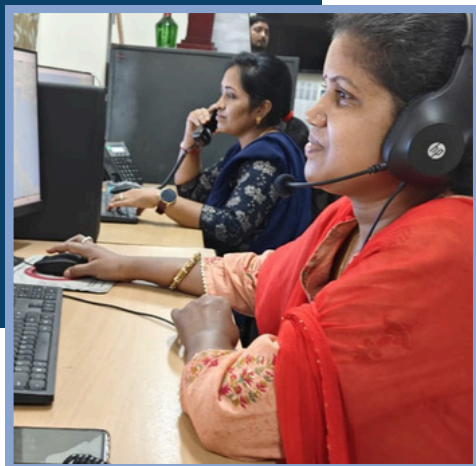






Social Welfare Board, VIP Road, Port Blair, South Andaman.

# WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT CONTROL ROOM (WCD-CR)



A 24x7 dedicated WCD Control Room (WCD-CR) has been setup at VIP Road, Junglighat, Sri Vijaya Purum for Child Helpline and integrated with **ERSS-112**

## Child Helpline-1098

The Child Helpline Control Room at the Headquarters i.e. at Sri Vijaya Purum to operationalize 1098, a national toll-free number dedicated for children in difficult situations. Childline Services is a 24x7 hrs emergency outreach service for children in crisis which links them to emergency or long-term care and rehabilitation service.

### Emergency Response & Rescue:

- Provides immediate assistance to children facing abuse, neglect, exploitation, trafficking, or any distress situation.
- Works in coordination with child protection authorities, police, legal aid, shelter homes, and hospitals for swift intervention.
- Ensures timely rescue, safety, and if required relocation to child care institutions (CCIs) or shelter homes.

Public awareness campaigns are conducted in schools, public spaces, and digital platforms to encourage children and concerned citizens to seek help when needed.



### Awareness on functions of Child Helpline



### School Awareness Programme on CHL Functions



# WOMEN HELPLINE-181



## Women Helpline

Women Helpline 181 is a dedicated emergency and support service for women in distress across the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This 24x7 hrs toll-free helpline aims to provide immediate assistance, guidance, and crisis intervention to women facing violence, abuse, or distressing situations.

### Emergency Response & Rescue:

Provides immediate assistance to women facing violence, harassment, domestic abuse, or distress situations.

Works in coordination with police (112), legal services, shelters, and hospitals for rapid intervention.

Ensures timely rescue and relocation to safe spaces such as shelter homes and One Stop Centres (OSCs).



## Awareness Programme





# National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR)

*Empowering Communities, Building a  
Drug-Free Future*



The National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR), implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, focuses on reducing substance abuse through awareness, treatment, rehabilitation, and capacity-building initiatives.

This framework is designed to create a drug-free society by engaging stakeholders from government agencies, NGOs, and local communities in a collaborative effort

During the financial year, a total of **102** programs were conducted, benefiting **4,310** individuals

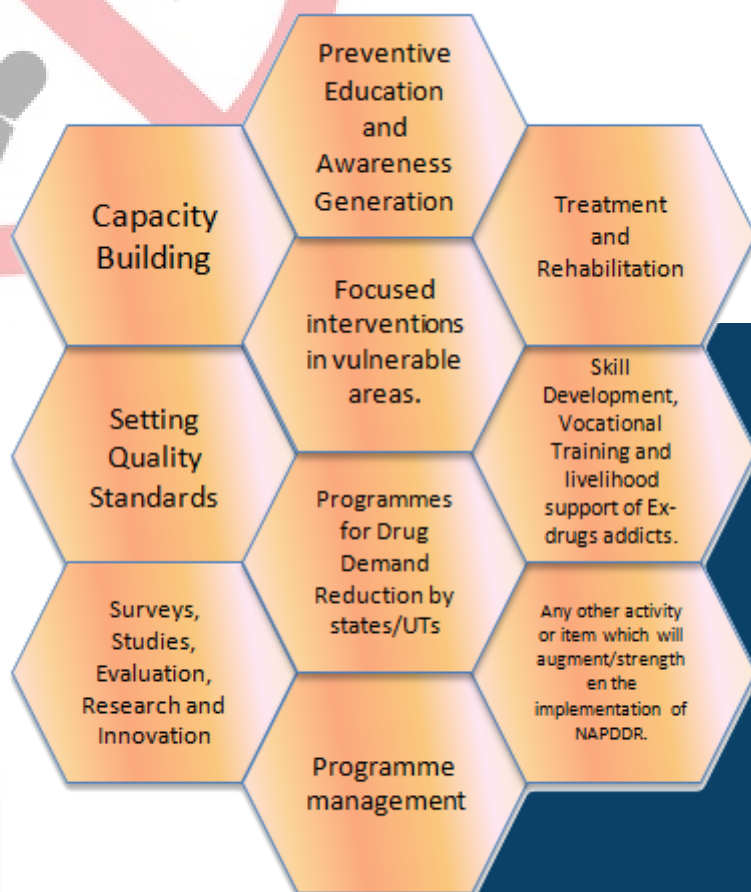
Hasgulla Program



Awarness program at schools



The NAPDDR includes the ten components of :



contact no: 112



# KALEIDOSCOPE



**Training on Poshan  
Bhi Padai Bhi**



**Training of Poshan Tracker by  
NeGD State Coordinator**



**Celebration of International  
Women's Day**



**Celebration of 10th year  
Anniversary of BPBP**

