

Economic and Social Issues

7th Poshan Pakhwada (Apr 8- Apr 22)

- **Organised by- Ministry of Women and Child Development** in convergence with other ministries since **March 2018** as a part of POSHAN Abhiyaan.
 - Now, it is a part of broader initiative '**Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0**' aimed at improving nutritional outcomes in India.
- This year Poshan Pakhwada emphasizes on **four key themes**:
 - Focus on the **First 1000 Days of Life**,
 - The first 1,000 days—from conception to a child's second birthday—are the most critical for physical growth and brain development. During this time, a baby's body and mind grow at an incredible speed, laying the foundation for their future learning, immunity, and overall health.
 - Popularization of the Beneficiary/Citizen Module of **Poshan Tracker**,
 - Management of Malnutrition through **Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) Protocol** and,
 - Healthy Lifestyle to **Address Obesity** in Children
- Poshan Abhiyaan, a flagship initiative launched by the Prime Minister, continues its mission to combat malnutrition, improving nutritional outcomes for **pregnant women, lactating mothers, adolescent girls, and children under the age of 6 years**.

Extra Points

- **POSHAN Abhiyaan** was launched on **March 8, 2018** to improve nutritional outcomes for women and children through a holistic approach.
- **CMAM protocol** was launched in **October 2023** by the Ministry of Women and Child Development as a standardized guide for Anganwadi workers to detect, refer, and treat malnourished children in their own communities.
- According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5 (2019-21), the percentage of children under 5 years who are overweight has **increased from 2.1% in 2015-16 (NFHS-4) to 3.4% in 2019-21** at the national level.

Poshan Tracker Application receives the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2024 under the Innovation category (centre) on 17th Civil Services Day

- Developed by- **Ministry of Women and Child Development**.
- Recognized for its significant impact on **nutrition service delivery** under the **Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0** mission.

About Poshan Tracker app

- The **Poshan Tracker** is an **AI-enabled digital tool** designed to **strengthen nutrition service delivery** across the country.
- Launched in **March 2021** to empower AWWs to efficiently manage attendance, monitor growth, meal distribution and early childhood education **in real time through smartphones**.
- It plays a vital role in improving the **efficiency, accountability, and transparency** of service delivery under **Poshan 2.0**.

Achievements of POSHAN Tracker App

- All Anganwadi Centres are registered on POSHAN Tracker Application.
- For the first time, the eligible beneficiaries—pregnant women, lactating mothers, adolescent girls, and children (0-6 years)—can **self-register** via the Poshan Tracker Web Application.

About Civil Services Day

- The Government of India observes the **21st of April** every year as 'Civil Services Day'.
- The **first National Civil Service Day** was observed in the **year 2006** because on 21 April 1947, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel addressed the first batch of civil servants in Independent India at the Metcalf House. He referred to civil servants as the 'steel frame of India' in his inspiring speech.

