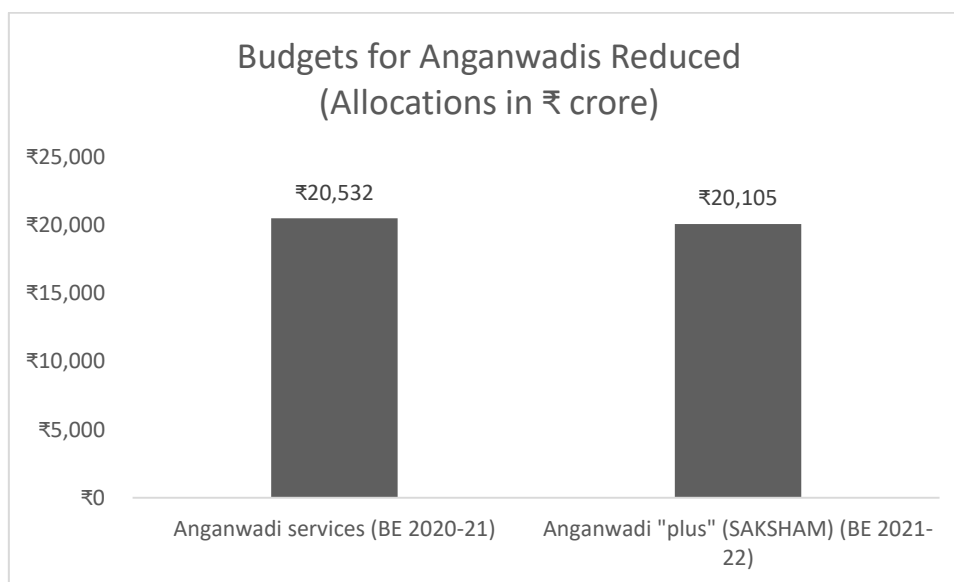


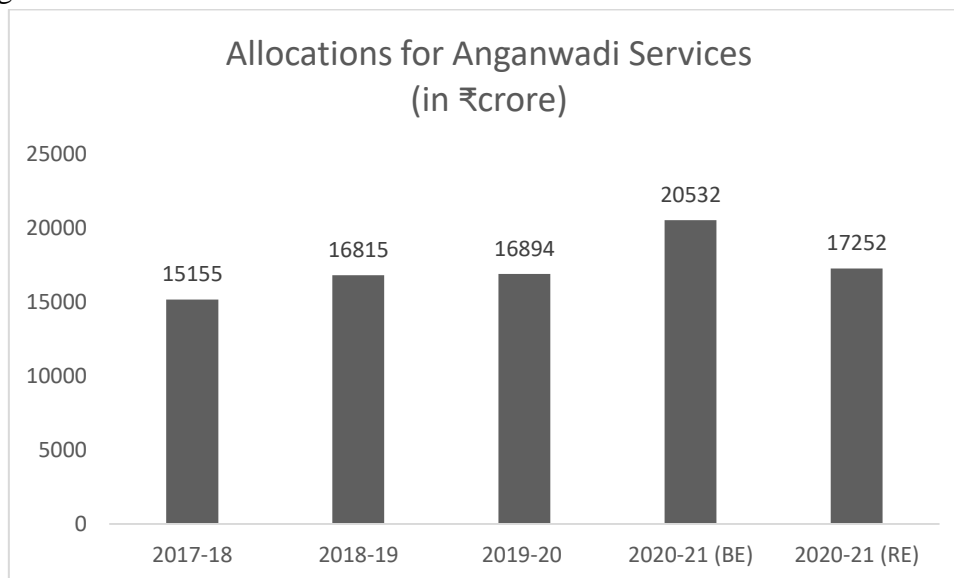
REDUCED PRIORITY TO CHILDREN AND MALNUTRITION IN BUDGET 2021

Budget for ICDS/Anganwadi Services

ICDS/Anganwadi services are the main platform for providing health, nutrition and education to children under six years of age, pregnant and lactating women and adolescent girls. ICDS has now been clubbed with some other schemes, into SAKSHAM, and sees reduced allocations.



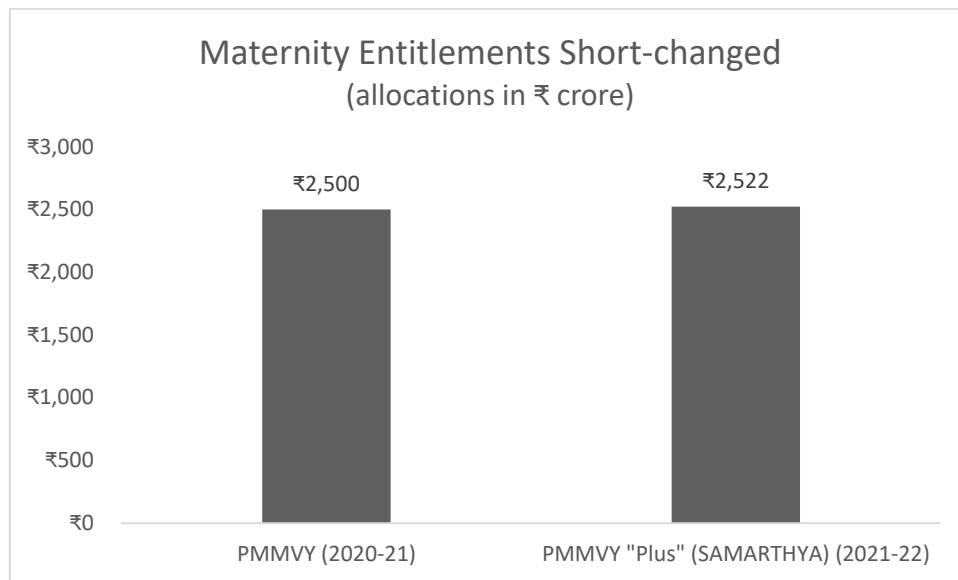
Anganwadi centres have been closed since March 2020 and implementation of take-home rations continues to be tardy. This is reflected in the revised estimates for 2021, much lower than the budget estimates.



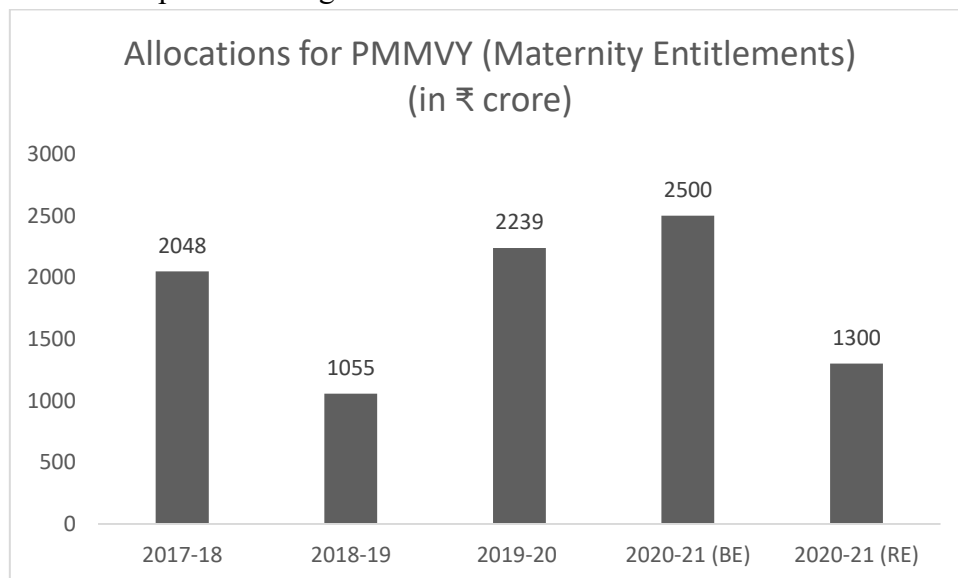
The revised estimates for 2021 for flagship scheme National Nutrition Mission/POSHAN is only ₹600 crore compared to budget estimates of ₹3,700 crores. In this budget, it is part of SAKSHAM.

Budget for Maternity Entitlements

Under NFSA, all pregnant and lactating women are entitled to a maternity benefit of at least ₹6000. The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana which is the scheme through which this is implemented curtails the entitlement by restricting it to the first birth and reducing the amount to ₹5000. Budget 2021-22 clubs PMMVY with few other schemes into SAMARTHYA with an allocation of ₹2522 core, compared to budget allocation of ₹2500 core for only PMMVY in Budget 2020-21



This scheme saw poor implementation in the current year reflected in revised estimates of just ₹1300 crore compared to budget estimates of ₹2500 crore.



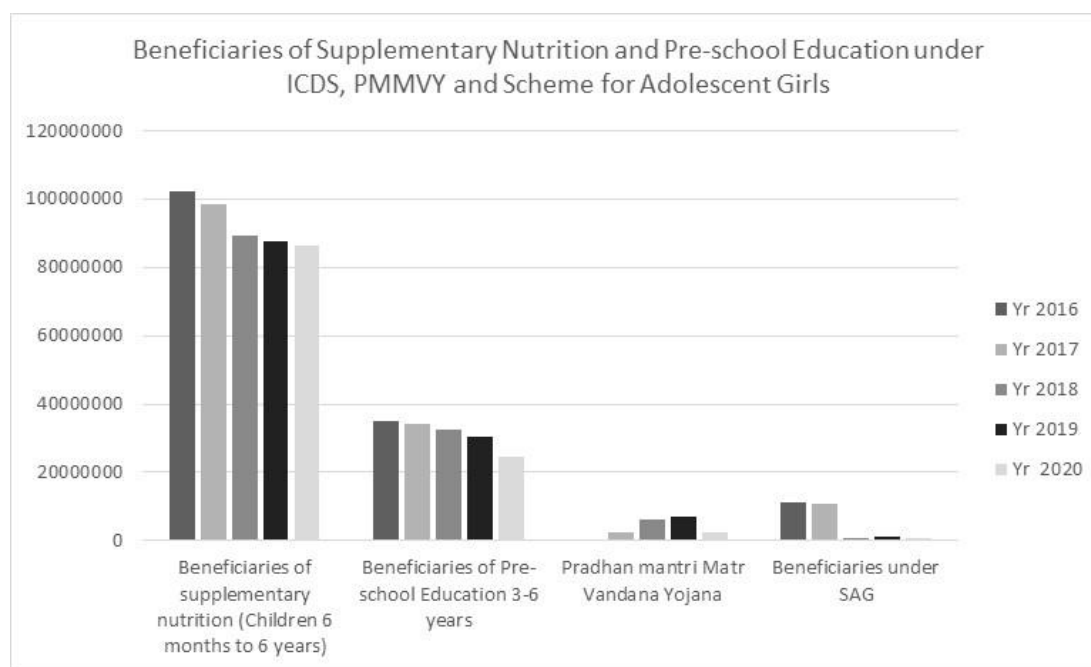
Budget for Creches and Adolescent Girls

Other schemes such as creches and scheme for adolescent girls also suffer poor and declining allocations, underspending as seen in revised estimates and now are part of clubbed schemes so budget break-up is not available.

| Scheme | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 (BE) | 2020-21 (RE) |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------------|--------------|
| Scheme for Adolescent Girls | 451 | 205 | 105 | 250 | 50 |
| National Creche Scheme | 49 | 30 | 48 | 75 | 15 |

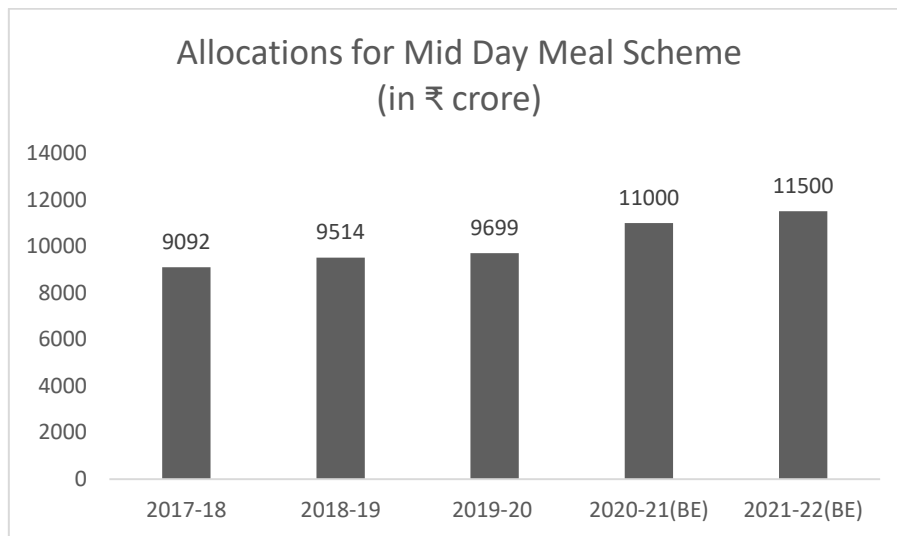
Declining Coverage

Along with reduced budgets, there is a trend of declining coverage in these schemes.



Source: Compiled by Vikas Samvad (2020) based on data from responses to Parliamentary Questions and RTIs

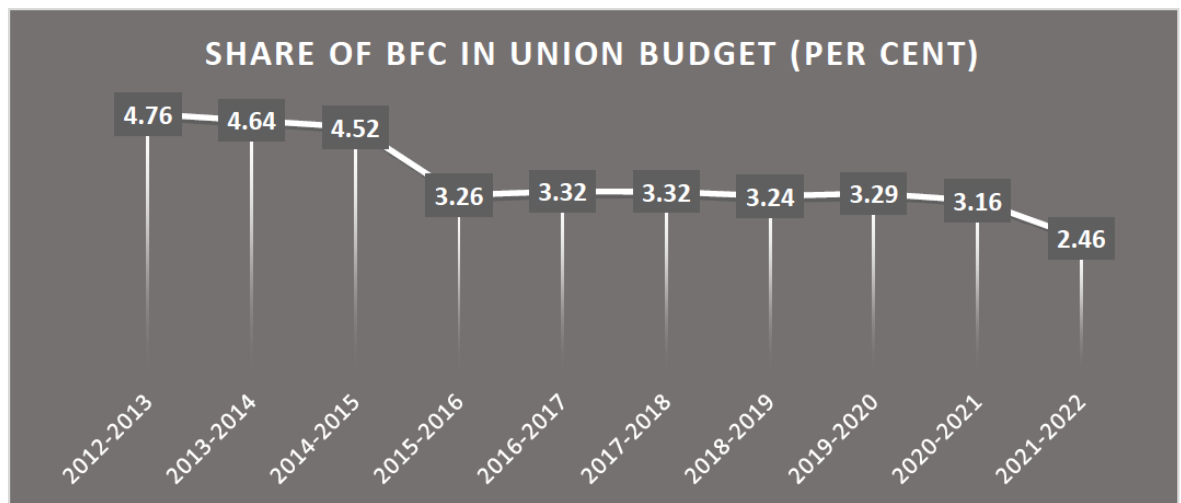
Budget for Mid-Day Meals



Some Highlights from HAQ Centre for Child Right's Report on Budget for Children

(Full Report available at: <https://www.haqcrc.org/new-at-haq/budget-for-children-2021-22-cast-in-shadows/>)

- Children of India receive only 2.46 per cent of the total Union Budget 2021-22 (BE), a reduction from 3.16 per cent in 2020-21.
- Children receive the lowest share of in the Union Budget in the last ten years.



- The Budget for Children (BfC) was reduced by 16.22 per cent at the stage of Revised Estimates (RE) in 2020-21.
- The share of Child Development expenditure in total government expenditure has reduced from 0.80% in 2020-21 to 0.57% in 2021-22

Budget for MGNREGA

