

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 2594**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2023

**CONSTRUCTION OF ANGANWADI CENTRES**

2594. SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has informed the State Governments that under the Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0 schemes, the States may seek Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds on their own discretion, apart from accepting donations from individuals, companies, business houses and institutions of repute for construction of Anganwadis;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has asked the States to revisit the actual requirements of Anganwadi Centres vis-a-vis the population of the area, the number of children actually attending and the number of centres already available and then furnish a detailed proposal; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b) In order to provide an impetus to the construction of Anganwadi centres across the country, States/UTs have been advised to continue to tap funds for construction of AWC buildings from various schemes such as MPLADs, MLALADS, RIDF (Rural Infrastructure Development Fund), Finance Commission Grants to Panchayati Raj Institutions, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), Multi-Sectoral Development Programme (MSDP) of Ministry of Minority Affairs, etc. States at their level in their own discretion have been advised to involve Individuals, Companies, Business Houses and Institution of repute, CSR funds for construction of AWCs purely on pro bono basis without any obligation. Similarly, the DMs have been encouraged to mobilize resources for this purely on pro bono basis and without any obligation. States/UTs have similarly been permitted funding of Anganwadi Infrastructure e.g., Toilets, RWHSs, DWS etc., or any aspect of Anganwadi activity such as ECCE material, furniture, cooking utensils, kitchen infrastructure, storage facility, etc.

(c) & (d) To achieve rationalisation of AWCs and to ensure that AWCs cater to the needs to the population as per the prescribed norms, States/ UTs have been advised time and again to assess any mis-match in the outreach of the scheme at the ground level. It has been reiterated to all States/ UTs to re-visit the issue of availability of AWCs at habitation level. Ministry has also issued guidelines for relocation of AWCs which inter-alia authorizes the States/UTs to relocate the AWCs. However, while relocating the AWCs, the aspect of availability of adequate land, building, water facilities, ease of access of pregnant women and children besides maximum travel distance not being more than 5 km in case of urban areas, 3 km in rural areas and 1.5 km in tribal areas for the Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) may be kept in view.

Further, States/UTs have been advised to co-locate those Anganwadi Centres which are running on rent and without sufficient infrastructure to nearby Government Primary Schools.

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