

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1038

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2004

INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has largest Integrated Child Development Scheme programmes in the World which aims at freeing children from all forms of exploitations etc.;

(b) if so, the details of the programmes;

(c) whether the targets have been achieved; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government and to utilize the funds under Integrated Child Development Scheme as per the Supreme Court orders?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH)

(a)&(b) The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme aims at holistic development of children

(0-6 years) and pregnant & lactating mothers from disadvantaged sections by providing a package of services comprising supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, referral services, pre-school non-formal education and nutrition & health education. Currently, the Scheme is sanctioned in 5652 Projects across the country, out of which 5274 Projects have become operational as on 31.8.2004 providing services to about 456.11 lakh beneficiaries, comprising of about 379.94 lakh children (0-6 years) and about 76.17 lakh pregnant and lactating mothers through a network of about 6.74 lakh Anganwadi Centres.

(c)&(d) The Supreme Court, vide its order dated 29.4.2004, directed the States/UTs, inter-alia, that all sanctioned Anganwadi Centres be made fully operational by 30.6.2004. In its further order dated 7.10.2004, the Supreme Court has reiterated that all sanctioned Projects/Centres should be made fully operational. The Government of India has impressed upon State Governments to operationalise all sanctioned Projects and Centres as per directions of the Supreme Court.