

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1015
ANSWERED ON:10.07.2009
ICDS SCHEME IN TRIBAL AREAS
Pal Shri Jagdambika

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

e:

- (a) whether the Government has covered all the tribal areas of the country under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise UT-wise;
- (c) whether the problem of malnutrition is more prevalent in the tribal areas of the country including Uttar Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) and (b) In order to cover all the habitations, including tribal, across the country, the States/Union Territory Administrations were requested to undertake a micro level survey specially having regard to predominantly SC/ST/ minority habitations and furnish specific requirement of additional projects/Anganwadi Centres [AWCs]/Mini Anganwadi Centres for 3rd Phase of expansion of the Integrated Child Development Services [ICDS] Scheme. Based on the requirements received from the States/Union Territory Administrations, the Integrated Child Development Services [ICDS] Scheme was expanded under 3rd Phase of expansion for 789 additional projects, 1,89,458 additional Anganwadi Centres and 77,102 additional Mini-Anganwadi Centres across the country. With this expansion, total number of sanctioned AWCs/Mini-AWCs, as on 31.3.2009, in the country has increased to 13,56,027. Besides, State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested to submit requirements, if any, for Anganwadi on Demand, in conformity of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Order dated 13.12.2006.

State-wise details of sanctioned ICDS Projects and Anganwadi Centres [AWCs]/Mini-AWCs, till 31.3.2009 is given in the statement is at Annexure-I

(c) and (d): Malnutrition varies widely across regions, states, age, gender and social groups, with relatively high levels of malnutrition in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand; Bihar; Chhatisgarh; Meghalaya; Gujarat; Uttar Pradesh; Orissa; Rajasthan; Haryana and Tripura, as per National Family Health Survey [NFHS-3] survey.

State-wise nutritional status of under five children [under weight as per weight-for- age classification] as per NFHS-3 2005-06 based on WHO New Growth Standards is at Annexure-II.

(e) To address the problem of malnutrition and ensure effective implementation of the ICDS Scheme, the Government has recently taken various steps which include Universalisation of the Scheme with special focus on SC/ST and minority habitations, letters to the States/UTs to submit requirements, if any, for Anganwadi on Demand, revision in cost norms of existing interventions including Supplementary Nutrition, revision in Nutritional and Feeding norms of Supplementary Nutrition. In addition, Government has also introduced provision of flexi fund at Anganwadi Centre level and new World Health Organization [WHO] Growth standards etc. Besides, Nutrition Education, Awareness, Counseling and Advocacy would continue.