

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1706
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2010
NUTRITIOUS FOOD IN AWCS
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Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the children enrolled in Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) are not getting nutritious food containing sufficient calories;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the remedial step taken by the Union Government to ensure supply of nutritious food at the Anganwadi Centres?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) : The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme being implemented by the State Governments/UT Administrations. Government of India issued guidelines in 2008-2009 revising the feeding and nutritional norms of supplementary nutrition to be provided under the ICDS Scheme, wherein the States were directed to provide morning snack and hot cooked meal to children in the age group of 3-6 years and Take Home Ration to children in the age group of 6 months to 3 years and pregnant and lactating mothers. The prescribed feeding norms are as under:

Category	Calories (K. Cal)	Protein (g)
Children (6-72 Months)	500	12-15
Severely underweight children (6-72 months)	800	20-25
Pregnant women and Nursing Mothers	600	18-20

Through various Review Meetings, Sample testing and field visits to the States/UTs, certain deficiencies such as supply of fewer calories against those prescribed, non-revision nutritional norms were noticed. The respective State/UT was conveyed the deficiency for immediate remedial action, which they have reportedly taken.