

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5035  
ANSWERED ON:02.09.2011  
SPORTS ITEMS FOR CHILDREN IN AWCS  
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**Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is any provision to provide sports items for the children's play and recreation in Anganwadi Centres;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a dearth of sport and recreation items in Anganwadi Centres; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by her Ministry to provide these items for the reaction of children in Anganwadi Centres?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): The ICDS is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented by States/ UTs from the platform of Anganwadi Centres. It caters to children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years, of which children in the age group of 3-6 years come to the Anganwadi Centre to attend the non formal Pre-School Programme. The programme is planned for a daily schedule of 2 hours and comprises of integrated activities for physical; motor; language; cognitive; socio-emotional development and development of creative and aesthetic appreciation. For physical and motor development and coordination both large motor and fine motor activities are organised. For large muscle development activities such as running, jumping, hopping, playing games etc are organised. The fine motor development activities comprise of sand play, water play, puppet play, circle/group games and activities etc.

Children at this age are not developmentally ready to indulge in organised and structured group sports and games with rules. Therefore, age appropriate play material is provided as part of Pre-School Education (PSE) kit at Anganwadi Centre.

As per the existing guidelines, the Scheme inter alia provides for a Pre - School Education (PSE) Kit per operational Anganwadi Centre @ Rs. 1000/- per annum. The items in the PSE Kit may be multiple in terms of possible play activities & concepts which are durable, safe for children (non-toxic and without sharp edges), culturally & environmentally relevant, cost-effective, easy to maintain, handle & store and conducive to creativity & problem solving. The indicative items in the PSE Kit is given below:-

- Flash cards for story telling
- Models on pictures/picture books of animals, fruits, vegetables, parts of the body, pictures/Picture books
- Building blocks- plastic or card board or wood
- Stuffed toys
- Dolls for role play
- Colours, number, alphabet, matching cards
- Stacking rings/ Shape Towers
- Balls
- Threading Boards/ Beads & Wires
- Kitchen Set
- Wheel toys
- Dhapli/small drum
- Simple Puzzle etc.