GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1981
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2011
QUALITY OF NUTRITIOUS FOOD
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Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of quality of the nutrition food being provided to mothers and children in anganwadi centres in various States across the country;
- (b) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding the quality of the said food;
- (c) if so, the total number of cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard and to ensure the quality of nutritious food being provided in anganwadi centres?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented by all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Supplementary nutrition is one of the six services under the Integrated Child Development Services[ICDS] Scheme. Under the Scheme, children below six years of age and pregnant and lactating mothers are required to be provided Supplementary Nutrition, in accordance with Guidelines issued by Government of India on 24.02.2009 and endorsed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its Order dated 22.04.2009. The provision of Supplementary Nutrition prescribed for various categories of beneficiaries is as follows:

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Age group Type of SNP

6 Months to Take Home Ration (THR) in the form
3 years of Micronutrient Fortified Food and/
or Energy-dense Food.

Severely under - THR in small frequent meals to the child.
weight children

3 to 6 years 1.Morning snack
2.Hot cooked meal
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Severely under- 1. Morning snack. weight children 2.Hot cooked meal.
3.Micronutrient Fortified Food and/ or Energy-dense Food as THR.

Nutritional norms of Supplementary Nutrition in ICDS Scheme are as under:

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Age Group Nutritional norms

Pre-revised Revised

Calories Protein (g) Calories Protein(g) (k.cal.) (k.cal.)

Children (6-72 months) 300 8-10 500 12-15

Severely malnourished 600 20 800 20-25 children (6-72 months)

Pregnant women and 500 15-20 600 18-20 Nursing mothers
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Types of food provided under SNP to mothers and children in anganwadi centres in various States across the country is varied and is determined as per local requirements.

Since ICDS Scheme is implemented by the States/UTs, the delivery of quality of nutritious food to children and mothers at the AWCs lies with States/UTs. Any complaint regarding SNP is sent to the State/UT for action and report. Two complaints were received regarding deficiencies in quality of nutritious food being served in AWCs respectively in the State of Uttar Pradesh and Orissa. These were referred to the State Governments for complete report. Initial reports/comments of the State Governments have been received.