

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:386
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2012
SHORTCOMINGS IN ICDS SCHEME
Singh Shri Bhupendra

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has issued any guidelines/advisory to State Governments to improve the functioning and to address the shortcomings in the implementation of Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) during the last three years and the current year?
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the State Governments thereto;
- (c) whether the Union Government has set up five-tier monitoring and review mechanism in order to improve the implementation of ICDS; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (b): Improvement in functioning of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme and addressing the shortcomings in the implementation of the programme is a on-going process. Union Government issues guidelines from time to time to the State Governments/UT Administrations to improve the functioning and whenever any shortcomings are noticed during the course of visits to the States, they are addressed through letters and review meetings to remove the deficiencies and to improve the implementation of the Scheme.

Further, in order to address various programmatic, managerial and institutional reforms and to meet administrative and operational challenges, the Government has recently approved Strengthening and Restructuring of ICDS. The Administrative Approvals in this regard have since been issued to the State Governments/UT Administrations.

(b) to (d): The Government has introduced a 5-tier monitoring and review mechanism at National, State, District, Block and Anganwadi levels and has issued the guidelines on 31.3.2011. Under these guidelines, State level Committees would inter-alia, monitor and review the overall performance of the ICDS Scheme. These Committees can also suggest steps for overcoming the deficiencies noticed in the implementation of the programme.

The District level committees are required to provide inputs for State level committees which inter-alia would include complaints/grievance redressal and implementation issues.

The association of MPs and MLAs in these Committees would facilitate and provide a platform for deliberating on the problems locally at the State and District level and for addressing them in an effective and time-bound manner.