

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:905
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013
NUTRITIOUS DIET TO CHILDREN
Singh Shri Jagada Nand

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

- (a) whether any criteria fixed by the Government to open an Anganwadi Centre;
- (b) whether the nutritious levels of the current meals offered through Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) is sufficient to meet the nutritional needs of children;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the nutritional contents in meals for children?

Answer

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

(a): Anganwadi Centres (AWCs)/Mini-AWCs can be opened on the basis of population of the area, the details of which are given below:

For Rural/Urban Projects
Population

400-800 1 AWC

800-1600 2 AWCs

1600-2400 3 AWCs

Thereafter in multiples of 800 one AWC

Mini AWC

150-400 1 Mini-AWC

For Tribal /Riverine/Desert, Hilly and other difficult areas/ Projects Population

300-800 1 AWC

150-300 1 Mini AWC

Apart from above, rural communities and slum dwellers is entitled to an "Anganwadi on Demand" in cases where a settlement has at

least 40 children under six but without any Anganwadi.

(b)to(d): Supplementary nutrition under the ICDS are a nutritional gap filling measure, designed to bridge the gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) and the Average Dietary Intake (ADI) in children below six years of age, pregnant and nursing mothers and are sufficient. The nutritional guidelines and norms for the Supplementary nutrition under the ICDS, issued by Government of India on 24.02.2009 are also endorsed by Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 22.04.2009

The type of food and the feeding (nutritional norms) to be provided to the beneficiaries at Anganwadi Centres are as given below:

Age group	Type of food	Calories (K Cal)	Protein (g)
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Children 6 Months to 3 years	Take Home Ration (THR) in the form of Fortified Food and/or Energy-dense Food.	500	12-15
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Severely under-weight children	THR in small frequent meals to the child.	20-25	
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Children 3 to 6 years	1.Morning snack. 2.Hot cooked meal.	500	12-15
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Severely under-weight children	1. Morning snack. 2.Hot cooked meal . 3.Micronutrient Fortified Food and/or Energy-dense Food as THR.	800	20-25
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Pregnant and Nursing mothers	Take Home Ration (THR).	600	18-20
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