

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1908

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2013

RESTRUCTURING OF ICDS SCHEME .

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to restructure and strengthen the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme during the 12th Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the expenditure likely to be incurred for the purpose;
- (c) the funds sanctioned, released and utilized by the States/UTs under the ICDS Scheme during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (d) whether the Government has received complaints regarding misuse/irregularities in distribution of foodgrains and other shortcomings/anomalies prevalent in the ICDS Scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and the action taken or proposed by the Government in this regard for effective implementation of the ICDS Scheme?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): In order to address various programmatic, management and institutional gaps and to meet administrative and operational challenges that had crept the ICDS over the years, Government approved the proposal for Strengthening and Restructuring of ICDS Scheme with an over-all budget allocation of Rs. 1,23,580 crore during 12th Five Year Plan.

The Administrative Approvals in this regard have since been issued to the States/ UTs. Restructured and Strengthened ICDS will be rolled out in all the Districts in three years as per following details:

- I. In 200 high burden districts in the first year (2012-13);
- II. In additional 200 districts in second year (2013-14) (i.e. w.e.f. 1.4.2013) including districts from special category States and NER;
- III. In remaining districts in third year (2014-15) (i.e. w.e.f. 1.4.2014).

The key features of Strengthened and Restructured ICDS inter-alia include addressing the gaps and challenges with (a) special focus on children under 3 years and pregnant and lactating mothers (b) strengthening and repackaging of services including ,care and nutrition counseling services and care of severely underweight children

(c) a provision for an additional Anganwadi Worker cum Nutrition Counselor for focus on children under 3 years of age and to improve the family contact, care and nutrition counseling for P&L Mothers in the selected 200 high-burden districts across the country, besides having provision of link worker, 5% crÃche cum Anganwadi centre

(d) focus on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)

(e) forging strong institutional and programmatic convergence particularly, at the district, block and village levels

(f) models providing flexibility at local levels for community participation (g) introduction of APIP (h) improving Supplementary Nutrition Programme including cost revision,

(i) provision for construction and improvement of buildings of Anganwadi centres

(j) allocating adequate financial resources for other components including Monitoring and Management and Information System(MIS), Training and use of Information and communication technology (ICT), (k) to put ICDS in a mission mode etc. and (l) revision of financial norms etc.

(c): A statement indicating funds released and utilized by the State Governments/UTs, under ICDS (General & Training) and SNP, during the last three years and current year

(upto 28.2.2013) is at Annex-I and Annex-II.

(d): The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is a Centrally sponsored Scheme implemented by States/UTs across the country. The responsibility for implementation of ICDS Programme, providing supplementary nutrition under it and management thereof rests with States/UTs. The complaints received in respect of misuse/irregularities in procurement/distribution of supplementary nutrition and other shortcoming/anomalies under ICDS Scheme are forwarded to concerned States/UTs for taking appropriate action. Complaints which are serious in nature, report from State Governments/UT Administrations is sought. During the last calendar year, 69 complaints - State of Uttar Pradesh (23), Bihar (13), Rajasthan (6), Delhi (6), Jharkhand (4), Haryana (3), Maharashtra (3), Odisha (3), Assam (2), Madhya Pradesh

(2), Uttarakhand (1), Andhra Pradesh (1), Chhattisgarh (1) and A&N Island (1) - were received in respect of misuse/irregularities in procurement/distribution of supplementary nutrition and other shortcoming/anomalies under ICDS Scheme.

(e): The complaints of such irregularities are forwarded to the concerned State Governments for remedial action. During review meetings, the States/UTs are also requested for improving all services under ICDS Scheme including Supplementary Nutrition Programme. The Government of India has also introduced five tier monitoring and supervision mechanism at National, State, District, Block and Anganwadi level and issued guidelines on 31.3.2011 for better implementation of the ICDS Scheme including SNP.

Whenever any shortcomings are noticed during the course of visits to the States, these are addressed through letters and review meetings to remove the deficiencies and to improve the implementation of the Scheme.

Strengthening and Restructuring of ICDS is also a step in the direction to improve the services under ICDS.