

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3180
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2013
PRE COOKED FOOD IN AWCS
Shanavas Shri M. I.

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

- (a) whether pre-cooked food in the form of rawa, biscuits etc. is being provided to children in Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), if so details thereof;
- (b) whether the AWCs are mandated to provide locally procured and freshly cooked food instead of pre-cooked food, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any enquiry or inspection to ascertain the quality of pre-cooked food being supplied in AWCs, if so, the details along with outcome thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to increase budgetary allocation for providing fresh cooked food with an increase in nutritional content and quantity, if so, details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a)& (b): The Supplementary Nutrition under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is required to be provided in accordance with Guidelines issued by Government of India on 24.02.2009 and endorsed by Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 22.04.2009.

The type of food and the nutritional norms as per above guidelines are as follows:

Age group	Type of food	Calories (kcal.)	Protein (g)
-----------	--------------	------------------	-------------

Children 6 Months to 3 years	Take Home Ration (THR) in the form of Micronutrient Fortified Food and/or Energy-dense Food.	500	12-15
------------------------------	--	-----	-------

Severely under-weight children	THR in small frequent meals to the child.	800	20-25
--------------------------------	---	-----	-------

Children 3 to 6 years	1.Morning snack 2.Hot cooked meal	500	12-15
-----------------------	--------------------------------------	-----	-------

Severely under-weight children	1. Morning snack. 2. Hot cooked meal. 3. Micronutrient Fortified Food and/or Energy-	800	20-25
--------------------------------	--	-----	-------

dense Food as THR.

Pregnant and Take Home Ration (THR). 600 18-20
Nursing mothers

To meet the requirements of the guidelines, the States provide the supplementary nutrition (including rawa and biscuits) depending on the local preferences, availability etc in consultation with the experts.

(c): Implementation of ICDS Scheme is monitored through prescribed monthly & annual progress reports, reviews, as well as, supervision visits etc. Food samples are also collected by the field unit of Food & Nutrition Board (FNB) for quality assessment.

In the current year 2012-13, 298 samples of supplementary nutrition food were collected (up to December-2012) by the field units of FNB from which 175 samples were found conforming to the nutrition norms of ICDS. Besides the above, 4525 samples of weaning/ supplementary/ others food were separately received from States Government/ others of which 4441 samples were conforming to their quality parameters.

Based on the inputs and feedback received, State Governments/ UT Administrations are addressed through letters and review meetings to improve the deficiencies and to improve the implementation of the Scheme including infrastructure and facilities at the AWCs.

(d): Government has recently approved strengthening and restructuring of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme with a 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.

It has been decided to roll out restructured and strengthened ICDS in three phases covering 200 high burden districts in the first year (2012-13); additional 200 districts in second year (2013-14) including districts from special category States and NER; and In remaining districts in third year (2014-15)

Cost norms for Supplementary Nutrition Programme have been revised as per above roll out plan under the strengthened and restructured ICDS, as given below on an existing cost sharing of 50:50 (NER 90:10):

Category	Existing Norms (w.e.f. 16.10.08)	Proposed Norms effective from the date of approval (per beneficiary per day) as per phased roll out.
----------	-------------------------------------	---

(i) Children (6-72 months)	Rs.4.00	Rs.6.00
----------------------------	---------	---------

(ii) Severely underweight children (6-72 months)	Rs.6.00	Rs.9.00
--	---------	---------

(iii) Pregnant women and Nursing mothers	Rs.5.00	Rs.7.00
--	---------	---------