

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4231  
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013  
EXTERNAL AID TO ADDRESS THE MALNUTRITION  
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

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

- (a) whether funding by the International Organisations for addressing the problem of malnutrition with specific references to infants and mothers in the country are being routed through Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the quantum of external assistance received for the purpose from international organisations/agencies during the current year; and
- (d) the monitoring mechanism in place to ensure optimum and proper utilization of the financial assistance provided by the external agencies?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): Funds from the multi-lateral/bi-lateral agencies for various health/nutrition sector projects at the central level or at the State levels are routed through the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

No specific external assistance has been received during the current year to address specifically and solely the problem of malnutrition with specific references to infants and mothers. Such information is also not maintained. However, a new project titled 'ICDS Systems Strengthening and Nutrition Improvement Project (ISSNIP)' with financial assistance from the International Development Association (World Bank) in the form of credit has been approved by the Government and made effective from 26th November 2012 for implementation in 162 districts in eight States, viz. Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh along with initiating urban pilots in and around NCR of Delhi and convergent nutrition actions pilots in some additional selected districts in two other States viz., Odisha and Uttarakhand.

The World Bank has committed an amount of US\$ 106 million for Phase 1 of the 'ICDS Systems Strengthening and Nutrition Improvement Project (ISSNIP)'. No disbursement has been made by the Bank in the current year.

UNICEF, a UN agency, does not provide funds to the Governments directly; rather they provide technical assistance using their funds. These are agreed and implemented through a five year Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) and Annual Work Plans. The CPAP for 2013-17 has recently been signed between Govt. of India and UNICEF. Estimated allocation for 2013-17 is USD 750 million.

(d): Funds for the approved projects are released to the States as per approved pattern of funding and subject to the audit by the CAG for ensuring proper utilization. Project Management Units both at the central and State levels headed by the Project Directors are responsible for implementation and monitoring of the project including optimum utilization of the financial assistance provided by the World Bank/Donor agencies.