

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:218

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013

RESTRUCTURING OF ICDS SCHEME

Tirkey Shri Manohar;Vijayan Shri A.K.S.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to restructure, strengthen and universalize the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme to cover the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), backward/tribal areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the budgetary allocation made for the purpose;
- (c) the funds sanctioned, released and utilized by the States under the ICDS Scheme during each of the last three years and the current year in terms of budgetary allocation;
- (d) whether the Government has adopted any mechanism in consultation with States to ensure proper implementation of ICDS scheme and nutritional security to children below the age of five years to combat infant mortality; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to(e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Part (a), (b),(c),(d)&(e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 218 for 23.8.2013 by Shri A.K.S. Vijayan and Shri Manohar Tirkey regarding 'Restructuring of ICDS Scheme'

(a) &(b): The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme was universalized in 2008-09 preceded by rapid expansion in the years 2005-06, 2007-08 and 2008-09, so as to cover all habitations, including SC/ST and Minority, across the country with the approval of 7076 ICDS Projects and 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres. Against 7076 sanctioned ICDS Projects and 13.73 lakh sanctioned Anganwadi Centres, there are 7025 operational ICDS Projects and 13.39 lakh operational Anganwadi Centres, throughout the country, as on 31.3.2013.

In order to address various programmatic, management and institutional gaps and to meet administrative and operational challenges, 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. The restructuring and strengthening of ICDS Scheme covers all the AWCs in the country including those located in the SC, ST, backward/tribal areas.

Restructured and Strengthened ICDS has been rolled out in 200 high burden districts in the first year (2012-13); additional 200 districts in second year (2013-14) (i.e. w.e.f. 1.4.2013) including districts from special category States and NER. In remaining districts, the restructured and strengthened ICDS will be rolled out in the 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 (AWW) 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% cr 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 Annual Programme of Implementation Plan (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 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 is at 'Annex-IA & IB'. Details of funds allocated separately under Schedule Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) and released to States / UTs are at 'Annex-IC'.

(d)& (e): Periodical assessment of progress/achievements made by the States/ UTs and improvement in functioning of various components of the scheme is an on-going and continuous process. This is done largely through monitoring reports and review meetings.

During the review meetings, broadly, the issues which are taken up for discussions/review are status of operationalization of projects and AWCs, filling up of vacant posts, diversion of manpower on non-ICDS functions, welfare issues of AWWs/AWHs. Supplementary Nutrition Programme (No. of days SNP given in a month, method of delivery, adherence to the nutritional and feeding norms, regularity in distribution, etc.), procurement and availability of medicine and Pre-School Education kits, holding health and nutrition education session and Village Health and Nutrition Days (VHNDs) per month, home visits by AWWs, growth monitoring and Joint Mother and Child Protection Card, community and Panchayati Raj involvement, financial management – (timely submission of Statement of Expenditure, utilization of funds earmarked under various heads, timely payment of honoraria, etc.), infrastructural issues, implementation of monitoring guidelines, training, etc.

During review meetings, shortcomings, if any, noticed in achieving the desired level of target in respect of above issues are brought to the notice of the States /UTs and the States/UTs are urged to expedite pending issues and prepare a time bound action plan to achieve the same.

Besides the review meetings taken at the national and State level, implementation of the scheme is monitored through Monthly Progress Reports and Quarterly Progress Reports sent by the States/UTs to the Government of India. Being a decentralized programme, a Five-tier Monitoring mechanism with defined tasks has also been assigned to monitor the progress of implementation of the scheme at all the levels viz. national, State, district, block and the Anganwadi level. MIS has also been revised under the strengthening and restructuring of ICDS, recently approved by the Government.

For adequately meeting the gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) and Average Dietary Intake (ADI) for the beneficiaries of ICDS Scheme, the Government of India had issued revised nutritional and feeding norms for supplementary nutrition under ICDS Scheme on 24.2.2009. The details of revised feeding norms for children below the age of 6 years are summarized below:

Category	Calories (K cal)	Protein
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Children (0-6 months)	Exclusive Breastfeeding	
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Children (6-72 months)	500	12-15
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Severely underweight children (6-72 months)	800	20-25
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