

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2397
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013
PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS UNDER ICDS SCHEME
Patel Shri Bal Kumar

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

- (a) whether the contract for supply of food supplements under Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme was awarded to private firms in the country including Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Supreme Court has directed the State Governments to award the contract under ICDS Scheme to self-help groups, mahila mandals and village communities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has issued any direction to State Governments in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details and the compliance status thereof, State/UT-wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (f): Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is a Centrally sponsored scheme implemented through the States/UTs. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide their order dated 07.10.2004, in a Public Interest Litigation WP No. 196/2001, had directed that the contractors shall not be used for supply of nutrition in Anganwadis and preferably ICDS funds shall be spent by making use of village communities, self-help groups and Mahila Mandals for buying of grains and preparation of meals. These directions were reiterated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 13.12.2006 and 22.4.2009.

Following these directions, all the States/UTs were addressed accordingly on 17.12.2004. The Government further issued instructions on 20.12.2005 to States/UTs to ensure that Panchayati Raj Institutions, Self Help Groups and Mahila Mandals should be used, as far as possible, for buying food grains, other condiments etc., for preparation of meals at Anganwadi Centre (AWC) and supervision/monitoring of Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP). The States/UTs responsible for implementation of ICDS Scheme are expected to follow the direction issued by the Union Government in this regard.