

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2445
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013
CHILD FOODS AND BOTTLED MILK
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Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of norms fixed/ standards set for the manufacturers of child food and bottled milk being served in Anganwadi centres in the country;
- (b) whether these manufacturers are complying with the standards set in this regard and if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of incidents of cases of death of children due to consumption of poisonous / low or inferior quality of food and bottled milk in Anganwadi Centres in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and current year, State/ UT-wise; and
- (e) whether the Government has directed the State Governments to take appropriate action against such manufacturers, and if so, the details thereof and the further action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme of the Ministry is Centrally Sponsored Scheme, implemented by the State Government / UT Administrations. It provides a package of six services one of which is supplementary nutrition to children below six years of age, pregnant and lactating mothers. Supplementary nutrition under the ICDS is primarily designed to bridge the gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) and the Average Dietary Intake (ADI) and is not a substitute to any meals to be given to children at home. Beneficiaries under the ICDS are required to be provided with supplementary nutrition in accordance with Guidelines " Revised Nutritional and Feeding Norms for Supplementary Nutrition in ICDS Scheme" issued by Government of India on 24.02.2009 and endorsed by Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 22.04.2009.

Summary table of revised nutritional & feeding norms for supplementary nutrition in ICDS Scheme:

Age group	Type of food (kcal.) (g)	Calories	Protein
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-dense	800	20-25

Food as THR.

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

The Government of India does not specify the food items to be distributed under SNP. To meet the requirements of the above guidelines, the States are to provide the supplementary nutrition as per the recipes developed by them in consultation with the experts, the local preferences, availability etc.

SNP food samples are also collected by the field units of Food & Nutrition Board (FNB) located in 29 States/UTs of the country for quality assessment and also for checking the fulfillment of energy and protein as per ICDS nutrition norms. Based on the inputs and feedback received, State Governments / UT Administrations are addressed through letters and review meetings to improve the deficiencies and take remedial measures.

(c) to (e): There are no reports of incidents of cases of death of children due to consumption of poisonous / low or inferior quality of food and bottled milk in Anganwadi Centers in the country.

As per the revised guidelines on 24.02.2009, the States /UTs should ensure the quality of supplementary nutrition being provided under SNP with reference to the norms of food safety as well as nutrient composition. The supplementary nutrition should conform to the prescribed standards laid down under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Integrated Food Law to ensure consistent quality and nutritive value of intervention per serving (as per Nutritional Norms). Letters adhering to the guidelines and safety norms have been addressed to the States/ UTs for SNP in ICDS on 15.03.2012 and 26.07.2013 respectively.