

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1582

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013

AWCS

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

(a) whether there is a huge gap between the number of sanctioned and operational AnganwadiCentres (AWCs) and Mini-AnganwadiCentres (MAWCs) in the country during each of the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, and the reasons therefor State/UT-wise;

(b) whether a large proportion of the said Centres are operating/ running from rented buildings/semi-pukka buildings/open/ partially covered spaces and do not have basic amenities such as toilets, potable water, separate kitchen, medicine kits etc. and if so, the number of such centres in the country, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether the funds released by the Government to States have been fully utilised/ spent on the upkeep of the said Centres during the said period and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to regularise the service of Anganwadi Workers/ Helpers and to bring them at par with the Government employees in terms of salary, allowances and other facilities and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to bridge the gap between sanctioned and operational AWCs/MAWCs, to provide adequate basic amenities in them and to protect the interests of AWs/AHs working therein?

**Answer**

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

(a) Government of India had approved 14 lakh AnganwadiCentres (AWCs) including 116848 Mini-AWCs and 20000 Anganwadi-on-demand (AoD) as a whole. These AWCs/ mini-AWCs/ AODs have not been approved State-wise. The gap between the number of sanctioned and operational AnganwadiCentres (AWCs) and Mini-AnganwadiCentres (MAWCs) has been reduced from 104509 in 2010-11 to 66107 in 2011-12 and to 34,617 in 2012-13 and further reduced to 34,937 (including 1586 additional AWCs/ AWC-on-demand sanctioned on 25.09.2013 by GOI) in the country. State-wise details are given at Annex-I.

As per Schematic norms of the ICDS Scheme, Government of India is responsible for the Planning & Policy issues whereas State Governments are responsible for the implementation of the Scheme. The reasons for gap between the sanctioned and operational AWCs and MAWCs across the country are largely due to administrative, procedural and legal delays by the State Governments/UT Administrations. Ministry of WCD has repeatedly impressed upon the State Governments/UT Administrations to take all required measures for early operationalisation of sanctioned AWCs/ mini-AWCs.

(b) The proportion/ percentage of AWCs and MAWCs operating/ running from rented buildings/ pukka & kutcha buildings/open space etc., as on 31.12.2012, are as under :

Type of Building

Kutcha Pucca Total

|                      |         |        |        |
|----------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| Total AWCs reporting | 1203365 |        |        |
| - Govt. Own Building | 0.04%   | 30.04% | 30.08% |
| - Rented             |         |        |        |

|                  |        |        |        |
|------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| AWWs/ AWHs House | 0.84%  | 4.40%  | 5.24%  |
| Others           | 11.42% | 16.23% | 27.65% |

- Community

|            |        |        |        |
|------------|--------|--------|--------|
| School     | 0.00%  | 22.33% | 22.33% |
| Panchayat  | 0.05%  | 3.89%  | 3.94%  |
| Others     | 2.48%  | 7.10%  | 9.58%  |
| Open Space | 0.91%  | 0.27%  | 1.18%  |
| Total      | 15.74% | 84.26% |        |

State-wise details are given at Annex-II.

About 50.28% AWCs are reported to have toilet facilities, 71.05% AWCs have drinking water facilities within the premises and 28.34% AWCs have separate kitchen as on 31.12.2012. State-wise details are given at Annex-III.

(c) Details of funds released and expenditure reported by States/ UTs under ICDS (General), Supplementary Nutrition (SNP) and ICDS Training during each of the last three years and the current year viz. 2010-11 to 2013-14 (up to 28.11.2013) is as under:

(Rs.in crore)

Year Funds Released Expenditure reported by States/ UTs

2010-11 9763.11 15337.97

2011-12 14272.21 19196.47

2012-13 15701.49 21649.81

2013-14 13235.79 6938.11

(up to 28.11.2013)

(d) The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme envisages the Anganwadi Workers & Anganwadi Helpers as "honorary workers" from the local community who come forward to render their services, on part time basis, in the area of child care and development. Being honorary workers, they are paid monthly honoraria as decided by Government from time to time. No proposal to bring the said workers at par with the Government employees in terms of salary, allowances and other facilities, is under consideration of the Government. Continuous efforts have, however, been made to improve their working conditions by extending facilities such as paid absence on maternity, insurance cover under the Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana, reservation of 25% of vacant posts of Supervisors for Anganwadi Workers, recruitment of 25% of Anganwadi Workers from Anganwadi Helpers etc. Recently, the honorarium of AWWs in Mini-AWCs has been increased from Rs. 1500/- to Rs. 2250/- w.e.f. 04.07.2013.

(e) The implementation of ICDS Scheme is continuously monitored through prescribed monthly & annual progress reports, reviews, as well as, supervision visits etc. Based on the inputs and feedback received, State Governments/ UT Administrations are addressed through letters and review meetings to address the deficiencies and to improve the implementation of the Scheme including operationalisation of AWCs and MAWCs to bridge the gap, infrastructure and facilities like availability of toilet, drinking water, separate kitchen and medicine kits at the AWCs.

Drinking water and sanitation facilities are being provided in Anganwadi Centres in convergence with the Schemes of the Department of Drinking Water Supply under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC).

Such convergence has been advocated from Central and State levels. A joint letter under the signatures of Secretary, WCD and Secretary, Department of Drinking Water Supply was issued to all the States/UTs on 10.2.2010 advising the States/UTs to create synergies at different levels to further the objectives of TSC and ICDS.

To facilitate and to augment convergence between the ICDS and TSC, the Ministry has also issued a letter to the Secretaries in charge of ICDS in all States/UTs urging them to utilize the TSC funds for construction of Baby Friendly Toilets in AWCs operating out of Govt. buildings and also in private buildings by utilizing the revolving fund component under the TSC. The Ministry of Rural Development has also been addressed to provide potable water at the AWCs under the Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission.

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme did not have provision for construction of AWC buildings under the scheme as this was envisaged to be provided by the community except for the North Eastern States for which financial support was being provided for construction of AWC buildings since 2001-02 at a unit cost of Rs.1.75 lakh.

States have been requested to tap the funds for this from various schemes such as MPLADs, MLALADS, BRGF, RIDF, Panchayati Raj, NREGA and Tribal Affairs, Multi-Sectoral Development Programme (MSDP) of Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA), under SSA, Finance Commission, Additional Central Assistance under State Plan, Integrated Action Plan, etc.

The Government has approved strengthening and restructuring of ICDS to improve services and the facilities at AWCs which inter-alia provides for construction, upgradation & maintenance of AWC buildings, weighing machines, kitchenwares & utensils, pre-school & medicine kits, furniture etc. As a part of Strengthening and Restructuring of ICDS Scheme, Government has approved a provision for construction of 2 lakh Anganwadi Centre buildings @ Rs.4.5 lakh per unit and upgradation of 2 lakh AWC buildings @ Rs 1 lakh per unit during XII Plan period in a phased manner with cost sharing ratio of 75 : 25 between Centre and State other than the NER, where it will be at 90 : 10. Also recently, the Ministry of Rural Development (MORD) has included construction of AWCs as an eligible authorised activity in the list of new works permitted under MGNREGA.