

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2769

ANSWERED ON:07.02.2014

ICDS SCHEME

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

(a) whether the Government has assessed the progress/ achievements made by the States/UTs under various components of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year along with the main objectives of the scheme and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has received complaints of several lapses, corruption, irregularities and diversion of funds under the said scheme during each of the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and the reasons therefor along with the loss to the Government as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government has setup any monitoring and implementation mechanism for effective implementation/utilisation of funds for intended purposes and improve/ oversee the functioning of the said scheme in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the States/UTs lagging behind in proper implementation of the said scheme and utilisation of funds released thereunder;

(e) whether the computerisation has been completed under the said scheme across the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(f) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the issues of lapses, corruption, irregularities, diversion of funds, improper implementation and underutilisation of funds under the said scheme?

Answer

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

(a) to (f) : The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme was launched with the objectives (i) to improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age-group 0-6 years;(ii) to lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child; (iii) to reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropout; (iv) to achieve effective co-ordination of policy and implementation amongst the various departments to promote child development; and (v) to enhance the capability of the mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of the child through proper nutrition and health education. In order to achieve these objectives, a package of six services namely (i) supplementary nutrition (SNP), (ii) immunization, (iii) health check-up, (iv) referral services, (v) pre-school non- formal education and vi) nutrition & health education are provided . Three of the six services namely Immunization, Health Check-up and Referral Services are delivered through Public Health Infrastructure under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

The Government is continuously assessing the progress/ achievements made by the States/ UTs under various services/ components of ICDS Scheme through prescribed monthly & annual progress reports, reviews, as well as, supervision visits etc. The achievements during 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 (as on 30.09.2013) in terms of number of operational projects, Anganwadi centres (AWCs), beneficiaries of supplementary nutrition and pre-school education is as under:

Year ending	No. of operational projects	No. of operational AWCs	No. of Supplementary nutrition beneficiaries [Children (3-6 years) and Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers]	No. of pre-school education beneficiaries
31.03.2011	6722	1262267	959.47 lakh	366.23 lakh
31.03.2012	6908	1304611	972.49 lakh	358.22 lakh
31.03.2013	7025	1338732	956.12 lakh	353.29 lakh
30.09.2013	7066	1339998	1032.32 lakh	349.22 lakh

The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is a Centrally sponsored Scheme implemented by States/UTs across the country. The responsibility for implementation of ICDS Programme including computerization if any and providing supplementary nutrition under its and management thereof rests with States/UTs. The complaints received in respect of misuse/ irregularities/ lapses/ deficiency in implementation of ICDS Programme and in providing SNP under ICDS Scheme are forwarded to concerned States/UTs for taking appropriate action. Complaints which are serious in nature, report from State Governments/UT Administrations is sought. During the last three years and the current year, complaints regarding misuse/ irregularities/ lapses/ deficiency in implementation of ICDS Programme and in providing SNP under ICDS Scheme received from the States/UTs of UP (68), Rajasthan (18), Bihar (20), Maharashtra (05), Chhattisgarh (01), Delhi (09), Haryana (04), Jharkhand (05), Madhya Pradesh (09), Orissa (09), Assam (03), A&N Island (02), Andhra Pradesh (01), Kerala (01).

The complaints of such irregularities are forwarded to the concerned State Governments for remedial action. During review meetings, the States/UTs are also requested for improving all services under ICDS Scheme including Supplementary Nutrition Programme. The Government of India has introduced five tier monitoring & supervision mechanism at National, State, District, Block and Anganwadi level and issued guidelines on 31.03.2011 for better implementation of ICDS Scheme including SNP.

Utilization of funds is monitored through the quarterly Statement of Expenditure submitted by the States/ UTs. Any unspent balance is adjusted in the next quarter. Every year Utilization Certificate is also submitted by the States/ UTs certifying utilization of funds released for intended purpose.

Whenever any shortcomings are noticed during the course of visits to the States, they are addressed through letters and review meetings to remove the deficiencies and to improve the implementation of the Scheme.

Strengthening and Restructuring of ICDS is also a step in this direction for improving the delivery system of SNP.