

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4670
ANSWERED ON:21.02.2014
IMPLEMENTATION OF ICDS SCHEME
Kalmadi Shri Suresh

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

- (a) the total number of eligible beneficiaries under the supplementary nutrition programme of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme vis-a-vis number of children left out of this programme in various States/UTs;
- (b) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has prescribed/laid down new child growth related standards for various zones and States of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government for better and effective implementation of ICDS Scheme across the country and to ensure fulfilment of the child growth related standards set by WHO?

Answer

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

- (a): 841.49 lakh children (6 months – 6 years) received the supplementary nutrition against 1251.61 lakh eligible children (0-6 years) as per Anganwadi (AW) survey register under ICDS Scheme as on 30.09.2013. State-wise details are given at Annex-I.
- (b) & (c): Government vide circular dated 06.08.2008 requested States/ UTs to adopt the new World Health Organisation (WHO) Growth Chart w.e.f. 15.08.2008 at all AWCs. The weight of a girl and a boy of same age differs slightly therefore separate growth charts for boys and girls have been introduced in ICDS. The new charts would help us in comparing growth of children within ICDS projects, districts, states & also other countries.
- (d): ICDS Scheme is self selecting. States have been requested from time to time to optimize coverage of beneficiaries under ICDS Scheme.

The implementation of ICDS Scheme including WHO Growth Chart 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.

The Government of India has approved the strengthening and restructuring of ICDS Scheme in a phased manner during 12th Plan.

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. As per information available from States/ UT, 30 States have constituted the Monitoring and Supervision Committees at State, District, Project & Anganwadi levels. These Committees are required to monitor and review progress of implementation of ICDS Scheme including roll out of WHO Growth standards and supply of essential items like weighing scales and WHO Growth Chart to Anganwadi Centres.