

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2456
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2014
SCHEMES FOR FREE NUTRITIOUS FOOD
Kothapalli Smt. Geetha

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

- (a) whether the Government provides free milk and other nutritious food to the mother and children under various schemes being implemented by the Government particularly to the poor persons belonging to SC/ST categories in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Andhra Pradesh along with the amount allocated and spent so far during the 11th and 12th Plan periods;
- (c) If not, whether the Government has any proposal to implement such scheme; and
- (d) If so, the details thereof along with the time by which such scheme is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) to (d): Under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Supplementary Nutrition is one of the Services provided to the children below 6 years of age and pregnant women & lactating mothers at the Anganwadi Centres. The Scheme is implemented by the States/UTs. The other five services provided are (i) pre-school non-formal education (ii) nutrition & health education (iii) immunization (iv) health check-up and (v) referral services. The Scheme is since universalised and open to all including poor persons belonging to SC /ST categories in the country.

The provision of supplementary nutrition under ICDS Scheme prescribed for various categories of beneficiaries is as follows:

- (i) Children in the age group of 6 months to 3 years: Food supplement of 500 calories of energy and 12-15 gms of Protein per child per day as Take Home Ration (THR) in the form of Micronutrient Fortified Food and / or energy-dense food marked as 'ICDS Food Supplement'.
- (ii) Children in the age group of 3-6 years: Food supplement of 500 calories of energy and 12-15 gms of Protein per child per day. Since a child of this age group is not capable of consuming of meal of 500 calories in one sitting, the guidelines prescribed provision of morning snack in the form of milk / banana / seasonal fruits / Micronutrient Fortified Food etc. and a Hot Cooked Meal.
- (iii) Severely underweight children: Food supplement of 800 calories of energy and 20-25 gms of Protein per child per day in the form of Micronutrient fortified and / or energy dense food as Take Home Ration.
- (iv) Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers: Food supplement of 600 calories of energy and 18-20 gms of Protein per day in the form of Micronutrient Fortified Food and / or energy dense food as Take Home Ration.

The State-wise details of amount allocated and spent on Supplementary Nutrition during the 11th and 12th Plan periods under the ICDS Scheme is Annexed.