

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3429

ANSWERED ON:05.08.2016

Digitisation of Anganwadi Centres

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes the digitisation of Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) for real time monitoring of every child and every pregnant and lactating mother;
- (b) if so, the details and progress made thereof along with the time by which the work in this regard is likely to be completed;
- (c) the expenditure incurred/ to be incurred on the proposed work;
- (d) the benefits to be accrued therefrom in improving the functioning and service delivery of AWCs; and
- (e) the further steps taken/ being taken by the Government to provide clean food with sufficient availability of micro nutrients given to the women and children through a standardised process of manufacturing and distribution through AWCs in the country?

Answer

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

(a) Ministry of Women & Child Development is implementing the International Development Association (IDA) assisted ICDS Systems Strengthening and Nutrition Improvement Project (ISSNIP) in 162 high malnutrition Districts spread over 08 (eight) States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The Project has been restructured on 29th September, 2015. The restructured ISSNIP, to be concluded on 30.12.2017, includes Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enabled Real Time Monitoring (ICT-RTM) as a key activity. ICT-RTM is to be driven by a customized ICDS – Common Application Software (ICDS-CAS). It will operate through a mobile application at the level of Aanganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Sector Supervisors (SS) in the ISSNIP States. Besides it will also provide comprehensive dashboard. It would enable the ICDS System to track individual child beneficiaries. ICT-RTM is aimed at improving the Service Delivery System of ICDS thereby is expected to enhance the nutritional outcomes with regard to ICDS beneficiaries viz. Children up to 6 years of age group, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers.

(b) The Amended and Reinstated Financing Agreement between Department of Economic Affairs and International Development Association (IDA) has been signed on 29.09.2015. This Ministry has issued Administrative Approval and Guidelines for implementation of Restructured ISSNIP on 18.03.2016. The ICDS-CAS has been developed and is ready to be deployed. Information and Communication Technology enabled Real Time Monitoring (ICT- RTM) has been launched on 25.05.2016. The participating States have prepared their roll-out plans and training plans. They have also selected the Master Trainers who would impart trainings to front line ICDS functionaries. Now, States are in the process of procuring the mobile devices.

(c) Total project cost of the restructured ISSNIP is Rs.78744.71 Lakh. Out of this, an amount of Rs.22521.62 Lakh is envisaged to be incurred on ICT-RTM.

(d) The overall goal of ISSNIP is to strengthen the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) policy framework, systems and capacities, and facilitate community engagement, to ensure greater focus on children under three years of age; and to strengthen convergent actions for improved nutrition outcome. The benefits to be accrued from ICT-RTM in improving the functioning and service delivery of AWCs are envisaged to be as follows:

- i. Help improve service delivery by Aanganwadi workers (AWWs) by introduction of mobile technology;
- ii. Provide real-time information on service delivery at Aanganwadi Centres and on growth and nutrition status of children;
- iii. Individualised tracking of child beneficiaries;
- iv. Enable to employ timely interventions wherever and whenever required and to prioritize and direct the interventions needed to improve the nutritional status in specific geographies;
- v. Auto generation of ICDS registers that are currently compiled manually by Aanganwadi workers and help ICDS staff save time in data entry into multiple registers, thereby enabling them to channelize more time on delivering ICDS services including increased focus on counselling;
- vi. Help in reaching out to all the beneficiaries in time;
- vii. Support the Aanganwadi worker's job through in-built counselling aids, alerts and auto plotting of growth charts and due lists;
- viii. Aid collection of real-time data enabling supportive supervision and timely intervention by the department officials;

(e) The Government has issued the "Revised Nutritional and Feeding Norms" for Supplementary Nutrition Program (SNP) in ICDS Scheme which provide for the fortification of Take Home Ration (THR) with essential micronutrients meeting the norms as per the Recommended Dietary Allowance under SNP. The guidelines also provide that Hot Cooked Meal is prepared in proper kitchen sheds using safe drinking water and maintaining hygienic conditions. Further, the Operational Guidelines for Food Safety and Hygiene in

ICDS have been issued by the Ministry to all the States/UTs on 24.12.2013.
