

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1048

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2014

AAGANWADI CENTRES

Birla Shri Om;Choudhary Col. (Retd) Sona Ram;Patel Shri Devji Mansingram;Shekhawat Shri Gajendra Singh;Singh Shri Bharat

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

- (a) the total number of Aaganwadi/mini-Aaganwadi centres functioning in the country along with the criteria for opening up of such centres;
- (b) the details of facilities being provided in these centres;
- (c) whether the Government has identified new areas for opening up of such centres in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to relax the norms/ criteria for opening of such centres in hilly and tribal areas of the country including Rajasthan and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has received complaints relating to functioning and construction work of these Aaganwadi centres, if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

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

(a): As on 30.09.2014, 13.42 lakh Aaganwadi/mini- Aaganwadi centres are functioning in the country.

Under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, an Anganwadi Centre (AWC) can be opened on the basis of population norms as per following details:-

For Rural/Urban projects

Population (400-800) - 1 AWC
(800-1600) - 2 AWCs
(1600-2400) - 3 AWCs
Thereafter in multiples of 800 one AWC

Population (150-400) - 1 Mini-AWC

For Tribal/Riverine/Desert, Hilly and other difficult areas/Projects

Population (300-800) - 1 AWC
(150-300) - 1 Mini-AWC

There is also a provision for opening of an AWC in habitations where child population is not less than 40 having no AWC, irrespective of overall population of the area/habitation.

(b): A package of six services comprising (i) Supplementary nutrition (ii) Pre-school non-formal education (iii) Nutrition and health Education (iv) Immunization (v) Health check-up and (vi) Referral services are provided at Anganwadi Centres through Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHS) at grassroots level. Three of the six services viz. immunization, health check-up and referral services are related to health and are provided through NRHM and Public Health Infrastructure.

(c): ICDS Scheme is implemented by the States/ UTs. The new areas for opening of AWCs are identified by the States/UTs keeping in view the population norms mentioned in para (a) above and consolidated proposal at the State level is sent to GOI for consideration

and approval. As on date, all the approved 14 lakh AWCs have been sanctioned to various States/UTs.

The State/UT-wise details of the funds allocated for the purpose during each of the last three years and current year is at Annex-I.

(d): As may be seen from para (a) above, population norms for opening of AWC in hilly and tribal area are already relaxed as compared to the other areas.

(e): 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 Scheme and its management thereof rests with States/UTs. During the last one year, 27 complaints (Uttar Pradesh-12, Bihar-5, Delhi-3, Madhya Pradesh-2, Haryana-2, Rajasthan-1, Uttarakhand-1 and West Bengal-1) regarding functioning of Aanganwadi Centre and 2 (Uttar Pradesh-2) regarding construction work of these Aanganwadi Centres are received. These complaints are forwarded to concerned States/UTs for taking appropriate action. Reports on complaints which are serious in nature are sought from State Governments/UT Administrations.