GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1351 ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014 ANGANWADI CENTRES Galla Shri Jayadev;Mahajan Smt. Poonam

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

(a) whether there is a huge gap between the number of approved, sanctioned and operational Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) in the country and if so, the details thereof, as on date, State/UT-wise and the reasons therefor along with the number of AWCs operational in the country, as on date, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether the Government has taken note that the existing operational AWCs lack of drinking water, toilet, separate kitchen etc. and other basic facilities/infrastructure and if so , the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to encourage the use of technology in the working/ functioning of the AWCs across the country and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government also proposes for online monitoring of AWCs and Anganwadi Workers and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to make all the approved and sanctioned AWCs operational, to ensure basic facilities/infrastructure therein and to strengthen the monitoring mechanism of AWCs?

Answer

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

(a) Government of India had approved 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) including 116848 Mini-AWCs and 20000 Anganwadi-ondemand (AoD) as a whole. Of these 13,74,935 AWCs/ mini -AWCs/ AODs have been sanctioned to States for operationalisation. States/ UTs have operationalised 13,41,745 AWCs/ mini-AWCs/ AODs leaving a gap of 33190 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs)/Mini-Anganwadi Centres (Mini-AWCs). State-wise details are given at Annex-I.

As per Schematic norms of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Government of India is responsible for the Planning & Policy issues whereas State Governments are responsible for the implementation of the Scheme. The reasons for gap between the sanctioned and operational AWCs and Mini AWCs across the country are largely due to administrative, procedural and legal delays by the State Governments/UT Administrations. Ministry of Women and Child Development has repeatedly impressed upon the State Governments/UT Administrations to take all required measures for early operationalisation of sanctioned AWCs/ mini-AWCs.

(b), (c), (d) & (e): About 50.28% AWCs are reported to have toilet facilities, about 71.05% AWCs have drinking water facilities within the premises and 28.34% AWCs have separate kitchen as on 31.12.2012. The proportion/percentage of AWCs and MAWCs operating/running from rented buildings/pucca & kutcha buildings/ open space etc., as on 31.12.2012, are as under:

Type of Building Kutcha Pucca Total Total AWCs reporting 1203365 - Govt. Own Building 0.04% 30.04% 30.08% - Rented AWWs/ AWHs House 0.84% 4.40% 5.24% Others 11.42% 16.23% 27.65% - Community 0.00% 22.33% 22.33% School Panchayat 0.05% 3.89% 3.94% 2.48% 7.10% 9.58% Others Open Space 0.91% 0.27% 1.18% 15.74% 84.26% Total

The implementation of ICDS Scheme 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 including operationalisation of AWCs and Mini-AWCs to bridge the gap, infrastructure and facilities like availability of drinking water, toilet, separate kitchen at the AWCs.

Drinking water and sanitation facilities are being provided in Anganwadi Centres in convergence with the Schemes of the Department of Drinking Water Supply under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC). Such convergence has been advocated from Central and State levels. A joint letter under the signatures of Secretary, WCD and Secretary, Department of Drinking Water Supply was issued to all the States/UTs on 10.2.2010 advising the States/UTs to create synergies at different levels to further the objectives of TSC and ICDS.

To facilitate and to augment convergence between the ICDS and TSC, the Ministry has also issued a letter to the Secretaries in charge of ICDS in all States/UTs urging them to utilize the TSC funds for construction of Baby Friendly Toilets in AWCs operating out of Govt. buildings and also in private buildings by utilizing the revolving fund component under the TSC. The Ministry of Rural Development has also been addressed to provide potable water at the AWCs under the Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission.

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme did not have provision for construction of AWC buildings under the scheme as this was envisaged to be provided by the community except for the North Eastern States for which financial support was being provided for construction of AWC buildings since 2001-02 at a unit cost of Rs.1.75 lakh.

States have been requested to tap the funds for this from various schemes such as MPLADs, MLALADS, BRGF, RIDF, Panchayati Raj, NREGA and Tribal Affairs, Multi-Sectoral Development Programme (MSDP) of Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA), under SSA, Finance Commission, Additional Central Assistance under State Plan, Integrated Action Plan, etc.

The Government has approved strengthening and restructuring of ICDS to improve services and the facilities at AWCs which inter-alia provides for construction, upgradation & maintenance of AWC buildings, weighing machines, kitchenwares & utencils, pre-school & medicine kits, furniture etc. As a part of Strengthening and Restructuring of ICDS Scheme, Government has approved a provision for construction of 2 lakh Anganwadi Centre buildings @ Rs.4.5 lakh per unit and upgradation of 2 lakh AWC buildings @ Rs 1 lakh per unit during XII Plan period in a phased manner with cost sharing ratio of 75: 25 between Centre and State other than the NER, where it will be at 90: 10. Also, Ministry of Rural Development (MORD) has included construction of AWCs as an eligible authorized activity in the list of new works permitted under MGNREGA.

There is no proposal for on-line monitoring of AWCs and AWWs. Under strengthened and restructured ICDS Management Information System has been revised which also includes provision of web-based entry of data.