

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1398  
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014  
INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ICDS SCHEME  
Singh Shri Bharat;Sule Smt. Supriya Sadanand

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

- (a) whether the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is reportedly run by underpaid and untrained workers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the details of the programmes implemented under the ICDS Scheme during each of last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the details of the funds allocated, released and its utilisation reported by the States /UTs under the scheme during the said period;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to revamp the ICDS scheme; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme being implemented by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The scheme aims at holistic development of children below 6 years of age and pregnant women & lactating mothers by providing 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 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

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme envisages the Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) as "honorary workers" from the local community who come forward to render their services, on part-time basis, in the area of child care and development.

The AWWs and AWHs are paid fixed honorarium per month as decided by the Government from time to time. Presently, AWWs and AWHs are paid honoraria of Rs.3000/- per month and Rs.1500/- per month w.e.f. 01.4.2011. Workers of Mini-Anganwadi Centres are being paid honoraria of Rs.2250 /- w.e.f. 04.7.2013. Apart from these, additional amount of honoraria are also paid by most of the State Governments /UT Administrations from their own resources.

Besides, these workers are also extended benefits such as paid absence on maternity, insurance cover under 'Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana', reservation of 25% of vacant posts of Supervisors for Anganwadi Workers, recruitment of 25% of Anganwadi Workers from Anganwadi Helpers etc.

AWWs are imparted three types of training to build their skills, knowledge and capacities to discharge their duties in delivering the ICDS services. These trainings are: (i) induction training (6 days)- given immediately on their appointment, if they are not deputed to full-fledged job training; (ii) job training (26 days) - one time full-fledged training, given after the appointment and (iii) refresher training (5 days) - given once in every two years. Specific curricula and contents for each types of training are developed by NIPCCD and prescribed by Govt. of India to all States/UTs. These trainings are conducted at the Anganwadi Training Centres (AWTCs) which are mostly run by NGOs and opened by the State Governments with the approval of Govt. of India.

A statement indicating State/UT-wise grants-in-aid released and expenditure reported, including the State share, for the year 2011-12 to 2013-14 and 2014-15 (upto 30.6.2014), under ICDS Scheme, is at Annex-I.

(e) & (f): In order to address various programmatic, management and institutional gaps and to meet administrative and operational challenges, Government approved Strengthening and Restructuring of ICDS Scheme in September 2012 with an over-all budget allocation of Rs. 1,23,580 crore during 12th Five Year Plan.

Roll out of Restructured and Strengthened ICDS has been taken place as per the following schedule:

- I. In 200 high burden districts in the first year (2012-13);

II. In additional 200 districts in second year (2013-14) (i.e. w.e.f. 1.4.2013) including districts from special category States and NER;

III. In remaining districts in third year (2014-15) (i.e. w.e.f. 1.4.2014).

The key features of Strengthened and Restructured ICDS inter-alia include addressing the gaps and challenges with (a) special focus on children under 3 years and pregnant and lactating mothers (P&L) (b) strengthening and repackaging of services including , care and nutrition counseling services and care of severely underweight children (c) a provision for an additional Anganwadi Worker cum Nutrition Counselor for focus on children under 3 years of age and to improve the family contact, care and nutrition counseling for P&L Mothers in the selected 200 high-burden districts across the country, besides having provision of link worker, 5% crÃche cum Anganwadi centre (d) focus on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) (e) forging strong institutional and programmatic convergence particularly, at the district, block and village levels (f) models providing flexibility at local levels for community participation (g) introduction of Annual Programme Implementation Plan (APIP) (h) improving Supplementary Nutrition Programme including cost revision, (i) provision for construction and improvement of buildings of Anganwadi centres (j) allocating adequate financial resources for other components including Monitoring and Management and Information System(MIS), Training and use of Information and communication technology (ICT), (k) to put ICDS in a mission mode etc. and (l) revision of financial norms etc.