

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3397**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2021

**TASK FORCE FOR ICDS SCHEME**

†3397. SHRI KUNAR HEMBRAM:

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

- (a) the present status of Integrated Child Development Scheme and Women Empowerment Schemes being implemented by the Union Government in West Bengal;
- (b) whether the Government has constituted any task force for proper implementation of said schemes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of funds released by the Government in budget of current year for the purpose, State/UT-wise?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) In West Bengal a total of 576 Projects and 1,19,481 **Anganwadi Centres** have been sanctioned out of this all are operationalised catering to the needs of 87.69 lakh beneficiaries. Under Anganwadi Services, a package of six services, comprising Supplementary nutrition; pre-school non-formal education; nutrition and health education; immunization; health checkup; and referral services are provided to targeted beneficiaries i.e. all children below 6 years of age, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers. Three of the six services namely, Immunization, Health Check-up and Referral Services are delivered through Public Health Infrastructure under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

As far as schemes related to women empowerment is concerned **Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK)** Scheme was approved in November, 2017 as a centrally sponsored scheme to empower rural women through community participation. The scheme aims to facilitate inter-sectoral convergence of schemes and programs meant for women. The scheme is implemented through State Governments (including West Bengal) and UT Administrations with a cost sharing ratio of 60:40 between Centre and States except for North East & Special Category States where the funding ratio is 90:10. For Union Territories 100% central funding is provided.

(b) Government has not constituted any task force for implementation of above said schemes. However from time to time, Government has taken many steps for strengthening Anganwadi Services. These include revision of cost norms of

supplementary nutrition, provision of construction of Anganwadi Centres under Convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), provision of drinking water and sanitation facilities at AWCs under Swachhta Action Plan (SAP) etc. There have been sustained engagements with State Governments for review and improvement including recent interactions to discuss different implementation related issues to strengthen services. Further, streamlined guidelines were issued on 13.01.2021, covering several aspects such as quality assurance, roles and responsibilities of duty holders, procedure for procurement, integrating AYUSH concepts and Data management and monitoring through “**Poshan Tracker**” for transparency, efficiency and accountability in delivery of Supplementary Nutrition has been issued.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development undertakes regular VCs and meetings to review/monitor implementation of the Aanganwadi Services/MSK scheme.

(c) & (d) Does not arise.

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