

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1822
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2006
POOR QUALITY FOOD UNDER ICDS
McLeod Smt. Ingrid

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

- (a) whether some of the food items supplied as part of the Central Government sponsored supplementary nutrition programme under the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) were of poor quality;
- (b) if so, whether the Government received any complaints in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and
- (d) the other steps taken by the Government to improve the quality of food being supplied under ICDS?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a), (b) and (c): No Sir, no such complaint has been received in the Ministry.

(d): ICDS is a centrally sponsored Schemes implemented through State Governments/UT Administrations. It is, therefore, the responsibility of the States/UTs to ensure supply of good quality Supplementary Nutrition to the ICDS beneficiaries as per the financial and nutritional norms laid down by the Government of India. In so far as Government of India is concerned, financial norms for supplementary nutrition under ICDS have been doubled in 2004 and 50% of the cost of supplementary nutrition is also now being borne by the Centre from the year 2005-06. Besides the functionaries of the ICDS at State, District and Block level, the Ministry, through the field infrastructure of Food and Nutrition Board, also monitors the quality of supplementary feeding component of ICDS. Any deficiencies/observations/suggestions of the field officers are also conveyed to the State Secretaries incharge of WCD to improve the quality of supplementary feeding under ICDS.