

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:95
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2006
DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN
Chinta Mohan Dr. ;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

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

- (a) the funds allocated by the Government under the schemes meant for the development of children being implemented with the help of Anganwadi workers during the current year, State- wise;
- (b) whether the performance of the scheme meant for child development has been satisfactory as per the assessment of the Government;
- (c) if so, the reasons for high percentage of children suffering from malnutrition and high infant mortality rate; and
- (d) the effective measures taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a), (b), (c) & (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a), (b), (c)& (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 95 FOR 28.11.2006 BY DR. CHINTA MOHAN AND SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN

(a) The details of funds released to the States/Union Territories in the current financial year [as on 24.11.2006] under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme are given in Annexure – I.

(b) : ICDS Scheme was launched in 1975 in 33 Community Development Blocks. The Scheme was gradually expanded and today it covers 6118 blocks in the country including 4790 in rural areas, 805 in tribal areas and 523 in urban slums. The impact of the Scheme has been significant in improving the health and nutritional status of the beneficiaries as brought out by various studies viz. National Evaluation on ICDS Scheme [National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)- 1992]; ICDS Survey, Evaluation and Research 1975-95 [Central Technical Committee on Integrated Mother and Child Development- 1996]; National Evaluation of ICDS Scheme [National Council of Applied Economic Research- 2000-01]; Quick evaluation of the ICDS Scheme (150 Projects) by NIPCCD in 2005-06.

As per the findings of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), the prevalence of underweight among children declined from 53.4% in 1992-93 to 47% in 1998-99 in the Country. Similarly, as per Sample Registration System (SRS) data Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has declined from 110 in 1981 to 58 per thousand live birth in 2004.

(c) & (d): Malnutrition is an underlying cause of almost fifty percent death amongst children below 5 years. The problem of malnutrition is multi-dimensional and inter- generational in nature which needs to be tackled through holistic coordinated interventions in areas of food security, health, sanitation and safe drinking water, nutrition, family welfare and poverty alleviation. Government of India is implementing following major programmes through various Ministries/Departments which, directly or indirectly, impact nutritional status of children:

(i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme,

(Ministry of Women and Child Development);

(ii) Reproductive & Child Health Programme & National Rural Health Mission, (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(iii) National Nutritional Anemia Control Programme,

(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(iv) National Prophylaxis Programme against Blindness due to Vitamin-A, (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(v) National Iodine Deficiency Control Programme, (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(vi) Targeted Public Distribution System, (Department of Food & Consumer Affairs);

(vii) Poverty Alleviation Programme, (Ministry of Rural Development);

(viii) A Pilot project in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls, (Ministry of Women and Child Development).