GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO: 1946 TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2021

MATRU PURNA SCHEME

1946: DR. SHASHI THAROOR

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that Anganwadi centres in Kerala are delivering mid-day meals for the children and their families during the lockdown in the wake of COVID-19;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry is considering to launch a year-round midday meal scheme through Anganwadis to meet the nutritional needs of pregnant and lactating mothers for improving maternal health and curbing child malnutrition in the rural areas in the state of Kerala, on lines of the 'Matru Purna' scheme in the state of Karnataka;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) As per the MHA guidelines, all Anganwadi Centres across the country were closed to limit the impact of COVID-19. However, to ensure continued nutritional support to Anganwadi beneficiaries, this Ministry has issued guidelines for delivery of supplementary nutrition at the doorsteps of the beneficiaries by Anganwadi workers. In accordance with these guidelines, the State of Kerala has been providing supplementary nutrition as THR to the children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years registered under Anganwadis. Details of food provided to the beneficiaries are -

Children 6 months to 3 years	Amrithum Nutrimix, a nutritive powder - 100 gms of Nutrimix contains : Wheat-45gm, Soya chunks- 10gm, Bengal gram-15 gm, GroundNut-10 gm and Sugar- 20 gm.
Children 3 years to 6 years	Raw food materials provided for 25 nutritional days as take homerationcontaining-Ragi- 20 gm, jaggery-50 gm, rice-60 gm, green gram-20 gm, broken wheat-65 gm, groundnut-10 gm, oil-10 gm per day

(c) to (e) Under Anganwadi services, there is a provision for Supplementary Nutrition to all the eligible beneficiaries, viz. children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years, pregnant women & lactating mothers in the form of Take Home Ration and hot cooked meal across the country including the State of Kerala. There is no separate proposal to launch a mid-day meal scheme for the above categories of beneficiaries.