

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3212
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6.08.2021

SUPPLEMENTARY NUTRITION UNDER NFSA

3212. SHRI MITESH RAMESHBHAI PATEL (BAKABHAI):

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

- (a) whether the National Food Security Act, 2013 passed by the Parliament aims to supply nutritional food to women and children, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the State Governments are not providing supplementary nutritional meal regularly to every pregnant women during entire period of their pregnancy and to lactating mothers upto six month after the birth of child and to every child upto the age of six, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether supplementary nutritional meal is provided on the basis of 300 days in a year;
- (d) if so, whether reduction in the period of providing supplementary nutritional meal is a violation of the provision of National Food Security Act, 2013; and
- (e) if so, the action taken by the Government for violation of the Act?

ANSWER

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

(a)& (b) The entitlements referred to in Sections 4,5 and Section 6 of the National Food Security Act, 2013 are provided under the Supplementary Nutritional Programme of Anganwadi Services of the Central Government to pregnant women and lactating mothers till six months after child birth, and to every child in the age group of six months to six years.

(c) to (e) Supplementary Nutrition (SNP) is provided for 300 days in a year. SNP provided to the beneficiaries is in the form of supplementary food and not a full meal and has been primarily designed to bridge the gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) and the Average Daily Intake (ADI). Moreover, Anganwadi Centres are also not open for all 365 days in a year. Further, this Ministry has also, vide communication dated 13.01.2021, issued streamlining guidelines to all States/UTs on 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.
