

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 21.12.2009**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**CASES OF MALNUTRITION IN MAHARASHTRA**

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SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI

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

(a): whether Government is aware of the cases of malnutrition in Belghat region of Maharashtra;

(b): if so, the details thereof; and

(c): the measures taken or proposed to be taken for nutritional challenges with sustainability and equity to deal with the cases of malnutrition?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

(SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a), (b) & (c) : Yes, Sir. As per information received from Government of Maharashtra, the State Government is working on improving the nutritional and health status of the children in the age group of 0-6 years. There are 181 anganwadi centres functioning in chikhaldara project and 215 anganwadi centres functioning in Dharni projects, total 396 anganwadi centres are functioning in Melghat region of Maharashtra to reduce the rate of malnutrition. Details of malnourishment status (under ICDS) in Melghat region is at Annex. I. The details of various measures by the State Government to reduce malnutrition are at Annex II. The Government of India has approved universalisation of the scheme of Integrated Child Development (ICDS) where population norms have been revised for sanction of anganwadi centre. The revised population norms are at Annex. III. The States/UTs have been advised to certify that SC/ST Minority habitations have been saturated. The scheme, inter-alia, provides a component of Supplementary Nutrition which is primarily designed to bridge the gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA) and the Average Dietary Intake (ADI). The Government has also enhanced the financial as well as nutritional norms for different categories of beneficiaries as follows:

Category	Revised Rates (Per beneficiary per day)	Revised Nutritional Norms	
		Calories (Kcal)	Protein (g)
(i) Children (6 months to 72 months)	Rs.4.00	500	12-15
(ii) Severely malnourished children (6 months-72 months)	Rs.6.00	800	20-25
(iii) Pregnant women and Nursing mothers	Rs.5.00	600	18-20

## Efforts taken by ICDS to prevent Malnutrition in Melghat

Integrated Child Development Services is a Central Government Scheme implemented by State Government Services given at Anganwadi Centres are Pre-School Education, Supplementary Nutrition Programme, Immunization, Nutrition and Health Education, Health Check –up and Referral Services. The main objective of ICDS scheme is to reduce malnutrition and overall development of the children`s upto 6 years. Various schemes are implemented through ICDS in Melghat Area to reduce malnutrition between 0-6 year`s children are as follows.

1) Supplementary Nutrition Programme: - A special scheme called Navsanjeevan Yojana is implemented in Tribal areas; under this scheme, the beneficiaries, i.e. children from 6 months-6 years, pregnant women, lactating mothers and adolescent girls are given extra supplementary nutrition. With the aim to have nutrition security for children in Tribal area tonics containing Vitamins and Minerals are provided for malnourished children to be consumed after eating Khichadi/any other supplementary food at AWACs.

2) Training Programme in Melghat: In collaboration with Bhavishya Alliance and ICICI Banks Human Nutrition section and CLR (Pune Based NGO) have started a training programme for Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers, in totality is improve quality of life through nutrition and child rearing practices.

3) ICDS has taken the assistance of the Breast feeding promotion Network of India

(BPNI) to impart training to AWW. All the AWWs in Melghat are trained under this program. This program is help to reduce neonatal mortality as also build up the immunity of children.

4) Kishori Shakti Yojana imparts health and hygiene education and training to adolescent girls, Deliberation on bad effects of early marriage, frequent child births, need for balance diet, having green vegetables etc are given.

## Annexure-III

### Population Norms:-

The revised Population norms for setting up a Project, Anganwadi Centre and Mini- AWC are as under:  
Projects

(i) Community Development Block in a State should be the unit for sanction of an ICDS Project in rural/tribal areas, irrespective of number of villages/population in it.

(ii)The existing norms of 1 lakh population for sanction of urban project may continue.

Further to this, for blocks with more than two lac population, States could opt for more than one Project (@ one per one lac population) or could opt for one project only. In the latter case, staff could be suitably strengthened based on population or number of AWCs in the block. Similarly for blocks with population of less than 1 lac or so, staffing pattern of CDPO office could be less than that of a normal block.

Anganwadi Centres (AWC)

For Rural/ Urban Projects

400-800 - 1 AWC

800-1600 - 2 AWCs

1600-2400 - 3 AWCs

Thereafter in multiples of 800 1 AWC

For Mini-AWC

150-400 1 Mini-AWC

For Tribal / Riverine / Desert, Hilly and other difficult areas/ Projects

300-800 1 AWC

For Mini-AWC

150-300 1 Mini AWC