

NFHS, the prevalence of under weight children below 3 years of age has declined from 42.7% in 1998-99 (NFHS-2) to 40.4% in 2005-06 (NFHS-3). Besides this, as on June, 2012, 782.53 lakh children and 182.23 lakh Pregnant & Lactating mothers have availed the benefits of nutrition at Anganwadi Centres under ICDS.

(b) There is an erroneous perception that the Anganwadi Centre is only a feeding centre which in fact is a centre for holistic child development. Supplementary Nutrition is only one of the six services provided to the children below six years of age and Pregnant & Lactating Mothers. The SNP is meant to bridge the gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) and the Actual Dietary Intake (ADI) and it is not a full nutrition programme. Under the Scheme, the beneficiaries are provided Supplementary Nutrition, in accordance with the Guidelines on revised Feeding and Nutritional Norms by Government of India on 24.02.2009.

#### **NAC recommendations on child nutrition**

1386. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has neglected the recommendations of National Advisory Council specially on child nutrition;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the recommendations of National Advisory Council with regard to child nutrition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) NAC has made a number of recommendations which call for new strategies and reforms that address institutional, programmatic and managerial gaps in the delivery of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme. The recommendations relating to child nutrition *inter-alia* include Balanced and nutritious diet including proper food and freshly cooked meals; Early Childhood care and development; Growth monitoring; Care of severely malnourished children; Education and counseling; IEC; Convergence through Village-level Fixed Health and Nutrition Days (VFHND); Convergence through community-managed Health, Nutrition and Day-Care Centres (HNDCCs) etc.

These are to be achieved through programmatic, management and institutional reforms in ICDS. While formulating the proposal on Strengthening and Restructuring of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, the recommendations of National Advisory Council (NAC) have been given due consideration.

#### **Youth hostels in Assam**

1387. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) how many youth hostels are set up in Assam;
- (b) whether it is a fact that two more youth hostels are being set up in Guwahati and Tezpur;
- (c) what will be the capacity of the concerned hostels and the total budget of the project and whether any youth hostels are being used for other purposes;
- (d) how many youths are benefited with the facilities being provided and whether all the youth hostels are used; and
- (e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) There are four youth hostels in the State of Assam located at Guwahati, Golaghat, Nagaon and Tezpur.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to set up any new youth hostel in Guwahati and Tezpur. Recently youth hostel located at Nagaon has been transferred to Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, an autonomous Organisation of this Ministry and the youth hostel located at Golaghat has been transferred to the Government of Assam to put them in use best suited for youth development activities.

(d) and (e) Youth hostel facilities are open to all youth, student and others to provide good and safe accommodation for them at reasonable rates. All hostels are also used for organizing various youth development activities like national integration camps, skill development programmes, seminars etc.

#### **Shortage of sports infrastructure in States**

1388. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state: