

(c) and (d) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme did not have provision for construction of AWC buildings under the scheme as this was envisaged to be provided by the community except for the North Eastern States.

As part of Strengthening and Restructuring of ICDS Scheme, Government has approved a provision of construction of 2 lakh Anganwadi Centre buildings @ Rs. 4.5 lakh per unit during Twelfth Plan period in a phased manner with cost sharing ratio of 75 : 25 between Centre and State other than the NER, where it will be at 90 : 10. Under this the requirement and perspective plan of construction is required to be projected by State Government in their Annual Programme Implementation Plan (APIP).

Further, construction of AWC has been notified as a permissible activity under MGNREGA. The construction of AWC building can be taken up in convergence with MGNREGA. A Joint letter in this regard has been issued by MWCD and MoRD to all States/UTs for planning and implementation by concerned Departments in the States/UTs to ensure the construction of AWCs in convergence with MGNREGA. States/UTs have also been requested to leverage funds under various schemes like MPLADs, MLALADs, BRGF, PRI, RIDF, MSDP, IAP, MGNREGA, 13th Finance Commission, ACA, State Plan and other area development project for construction of AWC Buildings.

Financial assistance to NGOs engaged in CDSs

1846. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of WOMEN and CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to release financial assistance to NGOs engaged in Child Development Schemes in the wake of availability of large unspent funds lying with several States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any objection from any State Government has been received;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective measures being taken by Government in clearing the apprehensions of the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (e) The Scheme of ICDS is a Centrally Sponsored Programme implemented through the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Government releases Grant-in-Aid to the States/UTs on a sharing ratio of 90:10 for all components including Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) for North east and 50:50 for SNP and 90:10 for all other components for all States other than North East. There is no provision to release financial assistance to Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) for engagement in Child Development Schemes by Government of India.

The States have been given the autonomy, within the overall framework of the ICDS Scheme to entrust projects to a voluntary organization including NGOs for which grants to them would be provided by the concerned State Government/UT Administration. The responsibility for deciding terms and conditions of MOUs, Agreements with NGOs etc. rest with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

With a view to strengthen the ICDS scheme, it has been decided to assign management and operation of upto 10% projects to PRIs and separately to NGOs/ voluntary organizations under the restructured ICDS. No objection from any State Government have been received so far in this regard.

Modernising adoption of Indian children

1847. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to modernise the adoption of Indian children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has started central receipt of applications for inter-country adoption and these are being referred to Indian adoption Agencies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD