

Act, 2000 mandates the Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) to complete the enquiry in respect of a child in conflict with law within a period of four months. However, this section also allows the JJBs to extend the period beyond four months in special cases with recorded reasons. Children who have not been released on bail are required to stay in Observation Home during the pendency of enquiry.

(b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) from 2009-10 under which financial assistance is provided to the State Governments/UT Administrations, *inter-alia*, for setting up and maintenance of JJBs. The Ministry is providing financial assistance for infrastructure, staff and training of staff to streamline the working of JJBs so that they can dispose of the cases at the earliest.

(c) and (d) The Ministry has been urging the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time to review and take steps to reduce the pendency of cases in the JJBs by increasing the frequency of the sittings of the JJBs and/or setting up new JJBs. This has been reiterated in all the Project Approval Board meetings held with the State Governments/UT Administrations to consider their proposals under the ICPS.

#### **ICDS Scheme**

1852. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is one of the world's biggest and unique child development programmes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the scheme operates throughout the country through 7005 projects and about 13.20 lakh Anganwadi centres;

(c) whether it is a fact that the scheme aims to improve nutritional health and early learning status of children below six years and mothers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (d) The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is one of the flagship programmes of the

Government of India and is largest community based outreach programme for early childhood development. It is implemented by the State Governments/UT Administrations by providing a package of services such as supplementary nutrition, pre-school non-formal education, nutrition & health education, immunization, health check up and referral services. The scheme is a well-conceived one to address health, nutrition and developmental needs of under-six children as well as pregnant and lactating women.

Initiated on a pilot basis in 1975 with 33 projects and 4891 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), the Scheme expanded to 5652 projects and about 6 lakh sanctioned AWCs in the country by the end of Ninth Plan. In 2008-09, the Scheme was universalized with approved number of 7076 projects and 14 lakh AWCs.

The ICDS Scheme is a self-selecting scheme. It is open to all children below 6 years of age and pregnant and lactating mothers. The scheme presently, operates through a network of about 7025 operational ICDS Projects and 13.31 lakh operational AWCs, across the country, as on 31.1.2013, against 7076 approved and sanctioned ICDS Projects and 13.72 lakh sanctioned AWCs, respectively. The services under ICDS are currently being provided to 927.65 lakh beneficiaries, which include 746.81 lakh children (6 months-6 years) and 180.84 lakh Pregnant and Lactating mothers.

Over the years, the ICDS Scheme has registered significant progress in terms of increase in number of operational projects, Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) and coverage of beneficiaries. The figures for the last 5 years are given in Statement (*See below*).

As per the National Family Health Survey, the prevalence of underweight children below three years of age has declined from 42.7 per cent in 1998-99 (NFHS-2) to 40.4 per cent in 2005-06 (NFHS-3). As per reports (January 2013) in ICDS, about 34.7% children under six are undernourished. Infant Mortality Rate has reduced from 58 per 1000 live births in 2005 to 44 per 1000 live births in 2011. 346.66 lakh children (3-6 years) are availing the benefits of Non-formal Pre-school education under the ICDS Scheme.

Several studies including National Family Health Survey-3 (NFHS-3) have revealed that the programme has contributed positively towards achieving some of the key programme objectives such as reduction of child malnutrition, improvement in caring practices and improved early child hood development outcomes including reduction in IMR and under-5 mortality and quality pre-school education.

***Statement****Details of operational projects, AWC's and coverage of beneficiaries under ICDS Scheme*

Year	Number of operational projects	No. of operational AWCs	No. of Supplementary nutrition beneficiaries			No. of pre-school education beneficiaries (in lakh)
			6 mths-6 mo	P & L mo	Total (in lakh)	
31.03.2008	6070	1013337	696.44	146.82	843.26	339.11
31.03.2009	6120	1044269	721.96	151.47	873.43	340.60
31.03.2010	6509	1142029	727.89	156.45	884.34	354.93
31.03.2011	6772	1262267	781.71	177.77	959.47	366.22
31.03.2012	6908	1304611	790.05	182.43	972.48	358.22
31.1.2013	7025	1331076	746.81	180.85	927.66	346.66

**Implementation of Domestic Violence Act**

1853. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the protection of Women Against Domestic Violence Act, 2005 is under implementation;

(b) if so, the highlights of the experience gained in the implementation of this Act;

(c) whether there are still glaring gaps in its implementation;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to make it more effective and result oriented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) Yes Sir. The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (PWDVA) is being implemented by all the States/UTs.