

The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is implementing several schemes/programmes of different Ministries/Departments through State Governments/UT Administrations. This Ministry is implementing Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG) namely SABLA, and Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojna (IGMSY) as direct targeted interventions. In addition, a Nationwide Information, Education and Communication campaign to generate awareness against malnutrition has been launched since 2012.

Additionally, as per information received from the Jharkhand Government, the action taken by the Health Department is as follows:

- All MTCs have been asked to examine the sibling of the admitted malnourished child and if found malnourished, they should be admitted and treated as well.
- Any child between 0-6 months of age, if found malnourished in spite of breastfeeding, to be admitted and treated at the MTC.
- All children discharged from MTCs to get iron and folic acid syrup.
- All MTCs to be managed by the paediatrician and if paediatrician is not available FMNCI (Facility-Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness) trained should manage MTC.

#### **Financial assistance to NGOs for child development**

2555. 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, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any objections from any State Governments have been received, if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) No, Sir,

(b) and (c) Do not arise.