

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Need for reforms in anganwadi centres

†1259. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that extensive reforms are needed in Anganwadi Centres being run for children's welfare in the rural and under developed areas; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Anganwadi Centres are not getting desired results in the absence of systemic mechanism for physical verification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR): (a) Anganwadi Services under the Umbrella ICDS Scheme is a flagship programme of Government of India. It provides six services to the beneficiaries *i.e.* children below six years of age and Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers. These services are provided at the Anganwadi Centres which are child friendly centres manned by Anganwadi Workers/ Anganwadi Helpers. AWCs are equipped with adequate infrastructure, facilities (kitchen, safe drinking water and child-friendly toilets), wall painting, play space and joyful learning environment. They are essential for care and development of children in the age group of 0-6 years as well as pregnant women and lactating mothers.

Introducing reforms in the aforesaid scheme is a continuous process. During the Twelfth Five Year Plan and thereafter, a number of reforms have taken place *viz*; introducing new interventions in the scheme, release of funds based on the Annual Programme Implementation Plan of the States/UTs, improving the service conditions of the AWWs/AWHs by giving them better opportunities in their career, improving the availability of water and sanitation at the AWCs, increasing the number of constructed AWC buildings, introducing Early Childhood Care and Education policy, Curriculum and Standards for ECCE, bringing a rapid improvement in monitoring mechanism by introducing Rapid Reporting System, increasing the cost norms for Supplementary

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Nutrition given to the beneficiaries, e-learning courses for AWWs/AWHs, setting up of state-of-the art Quality Control Laboratories at four regional centres, etc. These are few to count but the process of reforms is a continuous one.

Recently, the Government has approved setting up of National Nutrition Mission which has a number of new components contributing to the improved services under the Anganwadi Services *i.e.* monitoring of the scheme through Common Application Software, introducing incentive for better performing States, provision of incentives for AWWs for using Smartphone, etc.

(b) Ministry of Women and Child Development while conveying the approval of Annual Programme Implementation Plan (APIP) 2017 proposals submitted by the States/UTs for Anganwadi Services Scheme under the Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services Scheme has asked the States/UTs to immediately undertake head count of the beneficiaries. This has been done to eliminate the number of ghost beneficiaries.

Under the Anganwadi Services Scheme, 5-tier monitoring and review mechanism is already in place at National, State, District, Block and Anganwadi Levels.

Disbursal of compensation under Nirbhaya scheme

1260. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that since inception of Nirbhaya Scheme, there has been utter confusion over disbursal of compensation;

(b) if so, the coordination process among the Ministries of Finance, Women and Child Development and Home Affairs;

(c) the disbursement of funds and requests pending under the scheme, State-wise; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by Government for speedy justice to the victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government of India has set up a dedicated fund called "Nirbhaya Fund" in 2013, for implementation of initiatives aimed at enhancing the safety and