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5. Botswana	16. The Maldives
6. Brunei	17. Mexico
7. Cambodia	18. New Zealand
8. Canada	19. Qatar
9. Chile	20. Serbia
10. China	21. Singapore
11. The Dominican Republic	22. South Korea
12. Indonesia	23. Thailand
13. Japan	24. Trinidad and Tobago
14. Kuwait	25. United Arab Emirates
15. Malaysia	26. United States of America

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#### **Supplementary nutrition under ICDS**

108. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain States/UTs are implementing the Programme of providing supplementary nutrition under Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme by providing special breakfast and hot cooked meals to children aged between three to six years and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of additional financial assistance provided to those States/UTs for this purpose; and

(c) whether there has been any improvement in health and nutritional condition of children due to implementation of the said scheme and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR): (a) Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) is one of the six services provided through Anganwadis under Anganwadi Services of Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services. Under Supplementary Nutrition Programme children in the age group of 3-6 years are provided morning snacks in the form of milk/banana/seasonal fruits/micro nutrient fortified food etc. followed by a hot cooked meal at noon in the Anganwadi Centers. Besides, for severely malnourished children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years, additional food items in the form of Take Home Ration have been prescribed. The feeding and

nutritional norms are uniform but the type of food provided varies according to local food habits. The prescribed nutritional norms as per Schedule II of National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 for different categories of child beneficiaries is as under:—

Sl. Category No.	Nutritional norms (per beneficiary per day for 25 days a month)	
	Calories (K Cal)	Protein (g)
1. Children (6-72 months)	500	12-15
2. Severely malnourished children (6-72 months)	800	20-25

(b) The cost norms for supplementary nutrition given below are uniform for all States/UTs:—

Sl.No.	Categories	Rates (In ₹ per day per beneficiary)
1.	Children (6-72 months)	8.00
2.	Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers	9.50
3.	Severely Malnourished Children (6-72 months)	12.00

There is no provision of additional assistance to any State.

(c) As per the recent report of National Family Health Survey (NFHS) – 4 conducted by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2015-16, 35.8% children under 5 years of age are underweight and 38.4% are stunted indicating a reduction from the previous NFHS – 3 conducted in 2005-06, which reported 42.5% children under 5 years of age as underweight and 48% stunted. However the said achievement cannot be solely attributed to the breakfast being provided under ICDS.

#### **Dispensing with home work to children**

\*109. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to dispense with giving home work to primary school children and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has limited the number of books to be carried by such children for reducing the weight of school bags?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides the right to free and compulsory education in a