

F.No.15-2/2012-WBP (HP)
Government of India
Ministry of Women & Child Development
(ICDS APIP Cell)

1st Floor, Hotel Janpath
Janpath, New Delhi 110 001

31 July 2012

Subject: Review of ICDS Annual Programme Implementation Plan (APIP) for 2012-13: Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 July 2012 to discuss the State ICDS APIP with Govt. of Himachal Pradesh - Reg.

A copy of the minutes of the above cited meeting is enclosed herewith for information and necessary action.



(Dr. Saroj K Adhikari)
Asstt. Director

Tel/Fax: 011-2336 2376, 2336 8202

To

1. Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Secretariat, Shimla - 171 002
2. Ms. Madhu Bala Sharma, Director, Deptt. of Women & Child Development, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla - 171 009

Copy: PS to JS (S)/PA to DS (GL)/PA to DS (HSN)/US (CD-I)/US (CD-II)/US (Trng)

**Minutes of the meeting to discuss
State ICDS Annual Programme Implementation Plan (APIP) for 2012-13
with Government of Himachal Pradesh held on 16 July 2012**

A meeting to discuss the State ICDS Annual Programme Implementation Plan (APIP) for 2012-13 submitted by Govt. of Himachal Pradesh (HP) was held under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), Govt of India (GoI) on 16 July 2012 (*Venue: Shastri Bhawan, Secretary's Chamber*). Director, Deptt of Social Welfare and Women and Child Development, Govt of Himachal Pradesh made a PowerPoint presentation on the State's annual implementation plan for 2012-13 outlining the current health and nutrition situation of women and children in the State, and key programmatic issues relating to ICDS implementation. *List of participants is annexed.*

2. It was noted that the State Nutrition Action Plan has not been devised separately; however National Nutrition Policy has been adopted for implementation in the State. A State level Nutrition Committee has been set up under the Chairpersonship of Chief Secretary of Govt. of HP. The State has prepared an action plan for 12 blocks where percentage of undernourished children is high, having components of IEC, nutrition and health education, specific training of AWWs, and convergence with Rural Development and Public Health department to improve the sanitary conditions in these blocks.

3. More than 50% of the total inhabited villages in the State i.e. 8,913 out of total 17,495 are having population less than 200 persons. As of April 2011, only 12,688 villages are connected by road and 55 habitations identified as not feasible to road connectivity. Such conditions in the State necessitate differential approach in ICDS implementation.

4. Following major issues emerged during the discussion:

- a) The child sex ratio (0-6 years) in the State has decreased between 2001 and 2011 at an alarming rate, especially in the urban areas, where women are more economically independent and there is an increased focus on one child per family. The State is making efforts to address the importance of girl child through several means viz., local fairs, special ICDS camps and radio programmes.
- b) It was noted that the State has no ASHA worker under NRHM. However, the State has delinked the AWWs receiving incentives from the health for institutional delivery. Accompanying each and every pregnant woman by the AWWs for delivery was affecting the regular services at the AWCs.
- c) Noting high incidence of anaemia in young girls in the State, it was suggested that the State may consider including apple in the supplementary food menu, as it is available in abundance in the State.

- d) The State Govt. requested the GoI for sanction of 3 additional projects in *Simaur, Kinnaur* and *Nainadevi* where an average of 45-50 children attend at the AWCs, which are currently under a single project. Due to their remoteness in the hilly terrain, regular monitoring and supervision of all these AWCs is not feasible by the single project officer (CDPO). The State Govt. was informed that there is no buffer of projects at present which can be sanctioned.
- e) It was noted that the State has revised the training modules for each level. It was suggested to include information about child sex ratio and child abuse in the training modules.
- f) Secretary (WCD) suggested for better convergence with the Agriculture and Horticulture Department to diversify the supplementary food recipes.
- g) The State's advocacy efforts generating awareness through radio, folk songs, dramas, etc. were appreciated, but the State needs to focus on regular supervision and monitoring of the ICDS implementation.
- h) Because of the terrain and climate of the State which is sometimes challenging, it was suggested that the State would require innovative approach for effective programme implementation.

.... *

Annex

List of Participants

Ministry of Women and Child Development, Govt of India

- 1) Ms Neela Gagnadharan, Secretary (*Chair*)
- 2) Dr. Shreeranjana, Joint Secretary
- 3) Shri H. S. Nanda, Dy. Secretary
- 4) Dr. Saroj K. Adhikari, Asstt. Director
- 5) Shri Mrinmoy Thakur, Consultant
- 6) Ms Nidhi Dhingra, Consultant

Govt. of Himachal Pradesh

- 1) Ms. Madhu bala Sharma, Director (WCD)
- 2) Dr. Onkar Singh Thakur, Programme Officer (HQ)