

F.No. 1-1/2007-CD-I
Government of India
Ministry of Women and Child Development

Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi - 110001.
Dated the 17th May, 2009.

To

The Secretary in-charge of ICDS in all the States/UTs
(By Name)

Subject: Guidelines on 'Anganwadi on Demand' - Follow up action on the directions of the Supreme court contained in its Order dated 13.12.2006.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to say that the Hon'ble Supreme court, in its order dated 13.12.2006 in CWP No. 196/2001-PUCL Vs. UOI & Ors., has inter-alia, directed that rural communities and slum dwellers should be entitled to an "Anganwadi on Demand" (not later than three months) from the date of demand in cases where a settlement has at least 40 children under six but no Anganwadi.

2. It may be recalled that while filing the Affidavit and for effectuating this direction of the Hon'ble Court, the Union of India suggested the following procedure to facilitate the sanction of 'Anganwadi on Demand' which was also shared with the States/UTs vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 25th April, 2007:-

- (i) Demand for opening an Anganwadi Centre/Mini Anganwadi Centre should be made by filing an application furnishing the relevant particulars, including details of population, area to be covered by the proposed Anganwadi Centre to the District Programme Officer appointed under ICDS Scheme.
- (ii) The District Level Programme Officer shall verify the correctness or veracity of the particulars and furnish comments/recommendations to the State Government and for this purpose, the District Programme Officer shall take the assistance of the block level officers viz. Child Development Project Officer appointed in each block under the Scheme. The comments/recommendations of District Programme Officer shall be sent to the State Government within a specified time frame.

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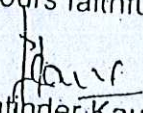
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- (iii) The State Government, if satisfied, would forward the proposal for sanction to the Central Government within a specified time frame.
- (iv) The Central Government on receipt of the recommendation from the State Government and after conducting necessary scrutiny as it deems fit, shall sanction the Anganwadi Centre/Mini Anganwadi Centre within a stipulated time frame subject to availability of resources in the budget of a particular year.

3. As already mentioned vide Ministry's letters No. 14-1/2008-CD-I dated 18th November, 2008, 18th December, 2008 (in respect of the States of Delhi, MP, Raj., Mizoram and Chhattisgarh) and 30th December, 2008 (in respect of J&K), the Government of India had approved Universalisation of the ICDS Scheme, under the 3rd Phase of Expansion bring the total number of AWCs to 14 lakh including an additional provision of 20,000 Anganwadis for Anganwadi-on-Demand.

4. In conformity with the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Order mentioned in para 1 *ibid*, the State Govts./UTs are requested to submit requirements, if any, pertaining to their States for 'Anganwadi on Demand'. Keeping in view the fact that Anganwadi has to be sanctioned within a period of 3 months from the date of Demand, the State Governments/UTs may ensure that stipulated formalities are completed on priority and proposals sent to MWCD within a period of 45 days from the date of receipt of such demands. This would leave 45 days for MWCD to complete the process for sanction of 'Anganwadi on Demand' so as to ensure that sanction is issued within the mandated period of three months.

Yours faithfully,


(Jatinder Kaur)

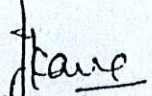
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel.No. 23386423

Copy to:

Director In-charge of ICDS in all States/UTs

Copy also to:

1. PS to MOS(WCD). I/c
2. PPS to Secy. (WCD)
3. PS to JS(SR)
4. Director (NIPCCD)
5. Director (CD-II)
6. US(CD-II)/US(CD-III)/SO(CD-II)/SO(CD-III)
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(Jatinder Kaur)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India