



**Government of West Bengal**  
**Directorate of ICDS**  
**Shaishali Complex, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**  
**.Salt Lake City, Kolkata – 700064**

Memo No. 374(23)/ICDM-Dte

Dated: 15/02/2022

To

The District Magistrate(s),

Darjeeling / Jalpaiguri / Kalimpong / Alipurduar / Cooch Behar / Uttar Dinajpur / Dakshin Dinajpur / Murshidabad / Malda / Birbhum / Bankura / Purulia / Paschim Medinipur / Purba Medinipur / Jhargram / Purba Bardhaman / Paschim Bardhaman / Howrah / Hooghly / Nadia/ North 24 Parganas / South 24 Parganas

The Additional Director of ICDS  
West Bengal

**Sub: Resumption of services at Anganwadi Centers.**

Madam / Sir,


With reference to above, you are aware that owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the services of Anganwadi Centers were temporarily suspended and Take Home Ration was being distributed among the beneficiaries since March 2020.

However, now, as per order No. 753/XXIII-ISS/2M-22/2020 dated 14.02.2022 of the Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal, the Anganwadi Centers will be reopened and services of Anganwadi Centers will be resumed with the serving of Hot-Cooked-Meal, the menu of which will be communicated shortly.

The opening of Anganwadi Centers and the serving of Hot-Cooked-Meal will be started without further delay as soon as the districts are ready after completing the preparatory activities as mentioned in the SOP attached herewith, and not later than 01.03.2022. A ready reckoner in Bengali for reopening of AWCs is also enclosed herewith for sharing with the Anganwadi Workers.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As Stated Above (4 Sheets)

  
**Director of ICDS**  
**West Bengal**

Memo No. 374/1((26)/ICDM-Dte

Dated: 15/02/2022

Copy forwarded to:

1. The Principal Secretary, Department of WCD & SW, Government of West Bengal
2. The Special Secretary, Department of WCD & SW, Government of West Bengal
3. The PS to the Hon'ble MIC, Department of WCD & SW, Government of West Bengal with the request to bring it to the kind notice of the Hon'ble MIC
- 4-26. The District Programme Officer, Darjeeling / Jalpaiguri / Kalimpong / Alipurduar / Cooch Behar/ Uttar Dinajpur / Dakshin Dinajpur / Murshidabad / Malda / Birbhum / Bankura / Purulia / Paschim Medinipur / Purba Medinipur / Jhargram / Purba Bardhaman / Paschim Bardhaman / Howrah / Hooghly / Nadia/ North 24 Parganas / South 24 Parganas / Kolkata

  
**Director of ICDS**  
**West Bengal**

**PROTOCOL for RE-OPENING OF ANGANWARI CENTERS  
AND RESUMPTION of SERVICES**

The Anganwadi Centers (AWC) had been closed since March, 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic. However, Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) in the form of THR was being distributed at the doorstep of the beneficiaries.

Now, as per Government orders, Anganwadi Centres are being reopened, and serving of Hot Cooked Meal (HCM) in the AWCs is being resumed for the sake of health and nutrition of the children/Pregnant Women/Lactating Mothers.

The Activities which need to be undertaken before reopening the AWCs are as follows .

**1. Cleaning and Sanitization of AWCs:**

- (a)** The AWCs will have to be cleaned and sanitized properly before they are opened up for serving cooked food to the beneficiaries. Many of the AWCs had earlier been used as 'Quarantine Center' for COVID-19. Special care may be taken while sanitizing those.
- (b)** On the day immediately before reopening of the AWCs, all the AWCs must be first cleaned with soap (detergent powder) and water by the Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers. After that, bleaching powder has to be spread around the AWCs to make those hygienic and suitable for children and other beneficiaries.
- (c)** Since Centers have been closed for almost two years, necessary precautions should be taken while cleaning the storage areas of the AWCs since they may be infested with snakes or other poisonous insects.
- (d)** Soap and water will be kept at the entrance of the AWCs and whoever comes to the AWCs would have to wash their hands properly with that soap and water.
- (e)** There would be no unnecessary gathering at the AWCs and persons not related with the activities of the AWCs would not be allowed to enter into the AWC premises.
- (f)** Wearing of mask will be compulsory for the AWWs and AWHs. This is also mandatory for anyone else who is entering the AWC premises including beneficiaries coming to the Centers for spot-feeding. The beneficiaries will be asked to use mask and maintain physical distance of two meters between each other while attending the AWCs on everyday basis.
- (g)** Sanitizer will be procured by the CDPO centrally to supply to all AWCs. The scale of distribution of sanitizer is 5 (five) liters/AWC/Month. Detergent and Bleaching Powder will be procured by AWW for the one time before opening of AWC for washing and sanitizing the AWCs.
- (h)** The cost of sanitizer and detergent and bleaching powder will be paid from 'Administrative Expenses'. Each AWW should do only one-time purchase of 1 Kg. washing powder cost of which will be within Rs. 60/- per Kg and 1 kg of Bleaching Powder cost of which will be within Rs.45/-.
- (i)** A half-day orientation programme of the Supervisors, AWWs and AWHs will be done by CDPO regarding checking of infrastructure, sanitization of AWCs and maintaining COVID protocol.
- (j)** The AWWs and Helpers, thereafter, will conduct a meeting with the guardians and elders of the locality to communicate the practices and precautions which will have to be followed during the operation of AWCs. They should make it clear to the guardians the habits and practices which they and their children should abide by. While conducting this meeting, there should be no crowding and proper physical distance should be maintained within the guardians.
- (k)** It must be borne in mind that while thorough cleaning has to be done initially, regular cleaning and

maintenance of hygiene and good habits are to be scrupulously continued once the AWCs are in daily operation.

**(l)** In many areas, the AWCs were damaged due to cyclones and became unsuitable for running the AWC. In such cases, suitable alternate place to run the AWCs should be finalized well before the reopening. CDPO should plan for this in consultation with the District Authorities.

**(m)** Any beneficiary who has symptoms of COVID or has any family members affected by COVID-19 should be refrained from attending to the Centers immediately, until he/she or family members are fully recovered. Similarly, AWW/AWH who has any symptoms of COVID should refrain from coming to AWC.

## **2. Initiating Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP):**

- (a)** 'Hot Cooked Meal' (HCM) would be served when the AWCs will be opened. The menu to be notified by the Department will be followed for this until further order.
- (b)** Before starting with 'HCM', stock of food at the AWCs must be sun-dried.
- (c)** CDPOs must send adequate food stock in advance to the AWCs for Hot Cooked Meal.
- (d)** The HCM will be served to the beneficiaries at 11 AM from Monday to Saturday and for this, the Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers everyday will come to the AWCs well in advance so that the HCM can be served on time.
- (e)** Only spot-feeding of HCM would be done from AWCs.
- (f)** Ready to Eat Nutrition mix will be distributed as THR to the children as is being given now.
- (g)** Pre-School Education will stay suspended for the time being.

## **3. Visit of CDPOs and Supervisors:**

- (h)** The Supervisors will visit the AWCs as much as possible so that in this pandemic time, services of ICDS are properly catered to the beneficiaries. In this regard, it is also decided that priority should be given to the 'Home Visit' of pregnant women and lactating mothers as well as houses where there were 'Severely Underweight' children.
- (i)** The CDPOs would plan the visit of the Supervisors in the above manner and also visit themselves for proper monitoring. The monthly report of visit of Supervisors and CDPOs would be prepared and sent to the Department with a copy to this end by 10<sup>th</sup> day of every month.

## কোভিড-১৯ পরবর্তী সময়ে অঙ্গনওয়াড়ী কেন্দ্রের পরিষেবা আংশিকভাবে শুরু করার প্রাথমিক নির্দেশাবলী

- অঙ্গনওয়াড়ী কেন্দ্র থেকে পরিষেবা শুরু করার পূর্বে সাবান ও জল দিয়ে কেন্দ্র ভালভাবে পরিষ্কার করতে হবে।
- কেন্দ্রের আশেপাশের জায়গায় চারদিকে ব্লিচিং পাউডার ছড়িয়ে জীবাণুমুক্ত করতে হবে।
- কেন্দ্র দীর্ঘকাল বন্ধ থাকার কারণে পরিষ্কার করার সময় সাপ ও অন্যান্য বিষাক্ত পোকামাকড় থেকে সাবধান থাকতে হবে।
- কেন্দ্রে ঢোকের মুখে সাবান ও জল রাখতে হবে। যিনিই কেন্দ্রে প্রবেশ করবেন, তাঁকে হাত ধুয়ে প্রবেশ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করতে হবে।
- প্রকল্প অফিস থেকে পাওয়া স্যানিটাইজার অঙ্গনওয়াড়ী কেন্দ্রে নিয়মিত ব্যবহার করতে হবে।
- অঙ্গনওয়াড়ী কর্মী, সহায়িকা, শিশু ও অভিভাবক-সহ কেন্দ্রে যাঁরা আসবেন, তাঁদের প্রত্যেককেই বাধ্যতামূলকভাবে মাস্ক ব্যবহার করতে হবে।
- পরবর্তী নির্দেশ না দেওয়া পর্যন্ত কেন্দ্রে শুধুমাত্র রান্না করা খাবার পরিবেশন করা হবে। প্রাক-প্রাথমিক শিক্ষা সংক্রান্ত কার্যক্রম বন্ধ থাকবে।
- সোম থেকে শনিবার পর্যন্ত সপ্তাহে ছয়দিন কেন্দ্র খোলা থাকবে ও প্রত্যহ বেলা ১১টায় রান্না করা খাবার সুবিধাপ্রাপকদের মধ্যে বিতরণ করতে হবে।
- রান্না করা খাওয়ানোর সময় যেন কোভিড সতর্কতাবিধি মোতাবেক ন্যূনতম দূরত্ব বজায় থাকে, সেদিকে লক্ষ্য রাখতে হবে।

- কেন্দ্রে পুরানো কোন খাবার থাকলে তা রোদে শুকিয়ে নিয়ে তারপর রান্না করতে হবে। কেন্দ্রে ২ মাসের রান্না করার জন্য প্রয়োজনীয় চাল, ডাল ও অন্যান্য খাদ্যসামগ্রী পর্যাপ্ত পরিমাণে মজুত আছে কিনা, সেদিকে খেয়াল রাখতে হবে।
- কোন সুবিধাপ্রাপকের বা তাঁর বাড়ীর কারও অথবা অঙ্গনওয়াড়ী কর্মী বা সহায়িকার কোভিডের কোন উপসর্গ দেখা গেলে তাঁকে অঙ্গনওয়াড়ী কেন্দ্রে আসতে নিষেধ করতে হবে।
- কেন্দ্র চালু করার আগে শিশুর পিতা-মাতা, অভিভাবক ও অন্যান্য সুবিধাপ্রাপকদের এই সংক্রান্ত নিয়মাবলী বিষয়ে সচেতন করতে হবে।