

155097/2017/O/O SECRETARY, WCD
Rakesh Srivastava
Secretary
Ministry of Women & Child Development
Shastri Bhawan
New Delhi



Anil Swarup
Secretary
D/o School Education & Literacy
M/o Human Resource Development
Shastri Bhawan
New Delhi

D.O. No.11-4/2017-CD.I & 12-19/2017/EE.8

Date: July 20, 2017

Dear Chief Secretary,

The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Scheme which is the Government of India's flagship programme for universalization of Elementary Education all across the country, catering to children in the age group of 6-14 years.

2. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the flagship scheme of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme in all States and UTs. This is the world's largest and most unique outreach programme providing a package of services comprising supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check up, referral services, nutrition & health Education and pre-school non-formal education. These services are provided to children in the age group of 0-6 years of age and pregnant women & lactating mothers. The focal point for all activities under the ICDS is the Anganwadi Centre (AWC).

3. Both the Department of School Education & Literacy and the Ministry of Women & Child Development are committed to work together and converge their activities for the greater benefit of all the beneficiaries.

4. Government of India approved 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres, which have been sanctioned to all the States/UTs accordingly. Out of these 14 lakh AWCs, 13.53 Anganwadi Centres are operational as on date. Many of these AWCs are running in rented buildings. We would request you to examine the possibility of shifting the Anganwadi Centres to the campus of the nearby primary schools located in the habitation of AWC's catchment to facilitate the transition of the children to the primary stage and ensure universal enrolment. The location of the AWCs within the premises of schools would also facilitate child preparedness for going to school and help in increasing the efficacy of both the Schemes.

5. We hope that you will examine the status of AWCs vis-à-vis the infrastructure available in the primary schools in your State/UT and take all necessary steps to relocate the AWCs accordingly. ***It should be ensured that the Schools in which AWCs are to be co-located, should be present in the same habitation where the AWC was previously present.*** We look forward to an early report from you in this regard.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

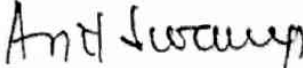
Sd/-
(Rakesh Srivastava)

Sd/-
(Anil Swarup)

Chief Secretaries of all States / UTs

Copy to :
Principal Secretaries/Secretaries in-charge of Women & Child Development in all States/UTs.
Principal Secretaries/Secretaries in-charge of School Education in all States/UTs


(Rakesh Srivastava)


(Anil Swarup)