

F. No. CD-14/1/2023-CD-II (e-105583)
Government of India
Ministry of Women & Child Development

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
Dated: 21.02.2023

To

The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries dealing with Anganwadi Services Scheme of all States/UTs

Sir/Madam,

This is regarding upgradation of Anganwadi Centres to Saksham Anganwadis in all States/UTs in the coming Financial Year 2023-24.

2. As you are aware, upgradation of Anganwadi Centres into Saksham Anganwadi Centres is one of the ambitious and flagship programme of the Government of India. Under "Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0", 2 lakh selected AWCs @ 40000 AWCs per year would be strengthened and upgraded for improved nutrition and ECCE delivery for stimulating the creative, social, emotional, cognitive and intellectual development of children under six years of age in convergence with education development programmes, improved infrastructure including internet/WIFI connectivity, LED screens, water purifier/installation of RO Machine; material for Early Childhood Care and Education including smart learning and audio-visual aids and child-friendly learning equipment etc.

3. Accordingly funds were released in the current FY 2022-23 for upgradation of AWCs into Saksham AWCs in the Aspirational Districts only. It has now been proposed to upgrade 80000 AWCs in the coming Financial Year 2023-24 (i.e @ 40000/- each for FY 2021-22 and for FY 2023-24) for Government owned AWCs @ Rs.1,00,000/- per AWC.

4. Improvement in infrastructure and in quality of services will be undertaken inter-alia by;

a. Strengthening and upgrading existing AWC buildings that are Government owned. The AWC building will be equipped with audio-visual aids and child-friendly learning equipment to facilitate joyful learning;

b. Construction of boundary wall;

c. Development of a modern kitchen, adequate and proper cooking and serving utensils, etc.

d. Ensuring clean storage facility for nutrition materials;

e. Ensuring electricity connection is available for provisioning LED connection;

f. Installation of Rain Water Harvesting System in regions which receive Heavy Rainfall;

- g. Procurement of Shishu Table, Floor mat/Dari, Weighing Scale, RO Machine for water purifier, ECCE Books and materials;
- h. Installation of black board, practice board for children, information board;
- i. Undertaking wall painting (cleaning, sanding, repairing)
- j. Undertaking minor civil and repair work (ramp, roof repair in case of seepage)
- k. Development of a nutri-garden (Poshan Vatika). A typical Poshan Vatika structure may have a plot size of 1000 sq. ft. with 8 beds of 10x10 sq.ft. The following plants/herbs/trees can be cultivated:

-Green vegetables (8 beds); spinach (palak), Methi, Amaranthus (Choulai), Asparagus (shatawari), Bacopamonnieri (Brahmi), Boerhavia (Punarnava), Chenopodium (Bathua), Dioscorea (Ratalu).

-Medicinal Plants/Fruit trees (5-6 trees): Moringa (sahajan), Papita, Karipatta, Lemon (Nimbu), Amla, Punica (Anar) etc.

-Boundary crops: Satwari, Lemon Grass, Giloy etc.

5. In view of the above, all the States/UTs are requested to kindly identify and select the Anganwadi Centres to be upgraded as Saksham Anganwadis and furnish the status to this Ministry by **31.03.2023 in the prescribed format in Excel Sheet (copy enclosed) through email (himanshu.90@gov.in)**. The Anganwadi Centres for which the States/UTs have furnished the information already in the FY 2022-23 should **not** be included in the information to be furnished by the States/UTs. The following may be ensured by States/UTs while identifying the AWCs for upgradation into Saksham AWCs:

- i. AWC must be in Government owned building;
 - ii. AWC having drinking water and sanitation facilities;
 - iii. AWC having provision/space for installation of Rain Water Harvesting system;
 - iv. AWC having open space around for Poshan Vatika;
 - v. Electricity connection is available for provisioning LED connection; and
 - vi. Most importantly AWC at a place where safety point must be kept in view for the installed infrastructure.
6. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

Yours sincerely,

(Capt. Prabhanshu Srivastava)
IAS

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to: Director/Commissioners dealing with Anganwadi Services in States

