

January 11th, 2008.
ICDS/531/ Nagaland.

Shri. Lal Huma
Chief Secretary
Government of Nagaland
New Secretariat
Kohima
Nagaland.

Sub: Status of Implementation of ICDS in Nagaland.

Dear Shri. Lal Huma,

As you know we have been appointed by the Supreme Court to monitor food and employment schemes under PUCL vs. Union of India, CWP 196/2001. We have recently submitted the Seventh Report on the implementation of these schemes all across the country to the Supreme Court. We would like to bring to your notice some issues of concern in relation to the ICDS in Nagaland.

1. Despite data being collected, compiled and Monthly Progress Reports being prepared on ICDS, it is noted that the latest one available on the state ICDS website is from 2002. We request you to please take necessary steps to make these reports and all the information related to the ICDS available on the website. The ICDS website of the Maharashtra Government (www.icds.gov.in), for instance, is not only very informative but is also a very good example of proactive disclosure of information about the programme. You may consider re-modelling your ICDS website along the lines that Maharashtra has done.
2. It is a matter of great concern that the percentage of children who are underweight actually *increased* from 24 to 30 between NFHS-2 and NFHS-3. Kindly examine the reasons for this, and let us know the assessment of the state government for this very worrying increase.
3. Our calculations show that per beneficiary per day expenditure of the state is just Rs. 1.72, much lower to the norm which is Rs 2 for children, Rs 2.70 for severely malnourished children and Rs 2.30 for pregnant/lactating women. What are the reasons for this, and what are our plans within what time frame to bring these to national norms.
4. In line with the Supreme Court orders, we would request a detailed survey of all urban slums and universal coverage of children living in all urban slums, across the State on a priority basis. Please separately list the numbers of SC ST dominated hamlets and the population in each urban area under slums (both authorised and unauthorised) in the state, what is the current coverage of ICDS centres in these hamlets and slums, and the plans for filling the gap.

**DR. N. C. SAXENA, COMMISSIONER AND
HARSH MANDER, SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF THE SUPREME COURT
IN THE CASE: PUCL v. UOI & Ors. WRIT PETITION (Civil) No. 196 of 2001**

5. Further, we urge you to conduct a campaign to include disabled children under ICDS. For this Anganwadi level survey of disabled children should be undertaken in a time bound manner, and in future data at ICDS centre upwards to project, district and state levels disaggregated for coverage of disabled children.
6. We would be grateful if the State Government ensures that necessary steps are taken to ensure that children of all migrant workers have access to all the six services of the ICDS. Please send us a copy of the state Governments instructions in this regard.

We request the Government of Nagaland to look into the above listed matters and send us an action taken report on the same at the earliest.

With regards

Dr. N.C. Saxena

Harsh Mander

CC: Shri. Chingmak Chang, Advisor to the Commissioners to the Supreme Court, Nagaland