

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

May 26, 2010
AWC/875/allstates

Shri Ardhendu Sen
Chief Secretary
Government of West Bengal

Subject: Operationalization of Anganwadi Centres in West Bengal

Dear Shri Sen,

As you are aware, in our capacity as Commissioners of the Supreme Court in the case PUCL v. UoI and Others (CWP 196/ 2001), we monitor the implementation of the food and work related schemes in the country and regularly submit reports to the Supreme Court.

We have analyzed the data received from the *Ministry of Women and Child Development*, Government of India on the status of the operationalisation of the Anganwadi Centers (AWCs) for those that have been sanctioned by Government of India till 31.3.2010.

For the State of West Bengal, we find that as many as 25923 of sanctioned AWCs have still not been operationalised. The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) is a major national programme that addresses the needs of children under six years. Since 2001, the Supreme Court has passed numerous orders on universalizing the ICDS with quality. The coverage figures for your state reflect the status of universalisation to be far from universal.

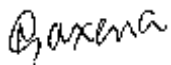
In this context, we would like to know the reason of 25923 of Anganwadis are not been made operational in West Bengal. Do please also send us district-wise information of number of Anganwadi Centres, Mini Anganwadi Centres has been sanctioned / operational by March 2010. Kindly share the information on the numbers of anganwadis has been operational in SC/ST hamlets as well. We would request that the requisite information be sent to us in following format.

Office of the Supreme Court Commissioners
B-68 2nd floor Sarvodaya Enclave, New Delhi 110017
Telefax: +91-11-41829631; phone: +91-11-26851335/339; Email: sc.commissioners@gmail.com,
website: www.sccommissioners.org

Districts	Sanctioned		Total number of sanctioned AWCs as on 31.3.2010	Operational		Total operational AWCs as on 31.3.2010	Number of AWC/mini AWCs operational in SC/STs habitations out of total operational AWCs as on 31.3.2010	Number of AWC/mini AWCs operational in urban areas out of total operational AWCs as on 31.3.2010
	AWC	Mini AWC		AWC	Mini AWC			
Total								

We would request you to kindly send us the requisite information in prescribed format within a month and provide us an Action Taken Report stating the reasons on the non-operationalisation of the AWCs.

Sincerely Yours,



Dr. N C Saxena



Harsh Mander

Cc:

1. Dr. Shreerajan, Joint Secretary, MoWCD, GoI
2. State adviser to the Commissioners to the Supreme Court, West Bengal