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No. WCD-ICDS-N-SCHM-0013-2019/ **10028** WCD, Dt **10/09/2020**

Sub : Celebration of Rashtriya POSHAN Maah-2020: Focus on identification & referral of SAM/MAM/SUW children, setting up of nutrigardens and conduct of POSHAN Panchayats

To

All Collectors

You are aware, that POSHAN Maah is getting observed across the state in the month of September 2020 to create Jan Andolan through Jan Bhagidari for addressing stunting, under nutrition, low birth weight in children and anaemia in adolescent girls and pregnant & nursing women. Since safety protocols are in force during the pandemic, technology has to be leveraged for taking up activities under the programme.

2. In order to accelerate reduction of stunting, low birth weight and anaemia, the following activities are critically essential;

2.1 Identification and referral of SAM children:

2.1.1 In order to ensure personalized care of children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and Severely Underweight (SUW) children and their effective tracking, ICDS functionaries, have been asked to adopt such children and to remain accountable for their health & nutrition indicators.

2.1.2 CDPOs are to adopt all the SAM children in their project; Supervisors all the MAM children in their sector and AWWs all the SUW children in their service areas. They are to get them checked in VHSNDs/health facilities, ensure their referral to NRCs and follow up their nutritional status, after discharge, in the community. A diet chart is to be developed for each SAM child and the mother, adequately counselled to implement the same. Vulnerability mapping of families of SAM children is to be conducted.

2.1.3 Growth monitoring data, in respect of all the SAM, MAM and Severely Underweight children, is to be diligently shared in the google doc format by 10th of every month for analysis at the district & state levels. It is to be filled at the project

level under the direct supervision of the CDPO. DSWOs are to remain accountable for ensuring that the data is timely submitted to the Department.

2.2 Setting up of nutrition gardens:

2.2.1 Setting up of nutri-gardens is an effective step towards ensuring nutrition security of women and children in the state. Saplings of papaya, banana, drumsticks and vegetables such as okra, tomatoes, egg plants etc may be grown in AWCs in mission mode. If space provides, an orchard, with plants such as guava may also be grown. Work may begin in AWCs having own buildings, land and fencing right away. In centres, without proper boundary may however need to be enclosed with green fencing. Deputy Directors, Horticulture and BDOs may utilize MGNREGS component towards developing such gardens.

2.2.2 Severely Acute Malnourished (SAM); Moderately Acute Malnourished (MAM) and high risk pregnant (red flag) women, however, deserve focussed attention. Since their families belong to the economically lower stratum, they are to be supported with backyard poultry & nutri gardens in their households to keep their nutritional vulnerability at bay. Migrant families may also be similarly supported.

2.2.3 Nutri-gardens must also be developed in Child Care Institutions (CCIs) (Observation homes /children's homes/special homes etc) to benefit children, including orphans, child in need of care & protection, from augmented nutrition.


2.3 POSHAN Panchayats:

2.3.1 It is imperative that the people's representatives in the Gram Panchayats/ Panchayat samitis and Zilla Parishads are encouraged to conduct POSHAN Panchayats for the purpose of identification, management and resolution of nutrition related issues locally.

2.3.2 The Gaon Kalyan Samitis, Gram Sabhas etc must meet and discuss the specific reasons for under nutrition in children and the community support required for finding solutions for the same.


2.3.3 The community must own up the responsibility of improving the SAM/MAM/SUW children. Dietary diversity through use of locally available food grains, pulses & oil seeds and their availability to poor families must also be explored.

Yours faithfully,


10/9/2020

(Principal Secretary to Govt.)
PR & DW Department

Yours faithfully,


18/9/2020

(Principal Secretary to Govt.)
WCD & MS Department