

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme

The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is the World's largest Programme aimed at enhancing the health, nutrition and learning opportunities of infants, young children (0-6 years) and their mothers. It is the foremost symbol of India's commitment to its children. India's response to the challenge of providing pre-school education on the one hand and breaking the vicious cycle of mal-nutrition, mortality, and morbidity, on the other other.

The scheme provides an integrated approach for converging basic services through community-based. Anganwadi Workers and Helpers. The services are provided at a centre called the 'Anganwadi' which literally means a courtyard play centre, a childcare centre located within the village itself. The packages of services provided are:

- Supplementary nutrition
- Immunisation
- Health check-up
- Referral services
- Pre-school non-formal education and
- Nutrition and health education

Emphasis has been on integrated and holistic development of children, as far as the two basic elements of human resource development, i.e. health and education, are concerned. As development has several inter-related dimensions – physical, cognitive, social, emotional and psychological, therefore, a synergistic approach to the implementation of the Scheme becomes inevitable.

Details of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme

Particulars	Description
Name of the Scheme	Integrated Child Development Services Scheme
Sponsored by	State Government
Ministry/Department	Women and child development
Description	To promote health and nutritional status of young children from 0-6 years and to provide nutrition for children and women. These services are provided by Anganwadi centers in five ICDS Projects.
Beneficiaries	Women and Children

Benefit Type	Others, Material
Other Benefits	Supplementary Nutrition, Health Checkup, Referral services, Immunization
Details	To promote health and nutritional status of young children from 0-6 years and to provide nutrition for children and women. These services are provided by Anganwadi centers in five ICDS Projects. 688 Anganwadi Centres are run in the following projects. 1) ICDS Project I, Villianur. (141 centres) 2) ICDS Project II, Karaikal. (141 centres) 3) ICDS Project III, Ariankuppam. (122 centres) 4) ICDS Project IV, Muthialpet. (126 centres) 5) ICDS Project V, Sithankudi. (138 centres) Mahe (12 centres) Yanam (8 centres)
Eligibility criteria	Expectant nursing mothers. - Other women between 15 to 45 years. - Children between 0-6 years. - Adolescent Girls.
How to Avail	Contact the concerned Child Development Project Officer at the Anganwadi centers under ICDS Projects.