

# Glossary

## Anganwadi Centre (AWC)

AWCs are child care centers which were implemented by the Government of India in 1975 in order to deliver the various health, education and nutrition services that comprise the Integrated Child Development Services program.

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## Anganwadi Worker (AWW)

AWWs are the staff who run and oversee activities at AWCs.

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## Child Development Program Officer (CDPO)

The CDPO is a state-level official of the Government's Integrated Child Development Services program who is mandated with overseeing activities at the sector level.

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## Behavior Change Communication (BCC)

BCC is an interactive process of an intervention in which communication strategies are used to promote positive behaviors and practices, particularly in regards to health and nutrition. BCC cultivates environments to achieve nutrition goals by sustaining positive and desirable behavioral outcomes.

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## Food Corporation of India (FCI)

FCI is an organization created and administered by the Government of India with governance structures through the state level. It is housed within the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

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## Government of India (GoI)

GoI is the central government of the country.

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## Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)

ICMR is the apex body in India for formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research. It is funded by the Government's Department of Health Research and housed in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

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## Infant and Young Feeding Practices (IYFP)

IYFP are recommended behaviors so that infants and young children can increase their chances of survival as well as

promote optimal growth and development, especially in the critical window from birth to 2 years of age. Ideally, infants should be breastfed exclusively for the first six months of life and continue to be breastfed up to two years of age and beyond. Starting at six months, breastfeeding should be combined with safe, age-appropriate feeding of solid, semi-solid and soft foods.

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## Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

The ICDS is a government program which provides health, nutrition and education services for children as well as pregnant and lactating women. It was launched in 1975 with the goal of impacting the first 1,000 days of life.

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## Integrated Child Development Services-Common Application Software (ICDS-CAS)

The ICDS-CAS is a technological system that was designed to strengthen the supply chain and service delivery of ICDS services. It was created and launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in order to ensure better delivery as well as implement data-based decision making. The ICDS-CAS is used by a variety of stakeholders including state officials as well as AWWs.

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## International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

IFPRI is a research institute which provides research-based policy solutions to sustainably reduce poverty as well as combat hunger and malnutrition around the world.

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## Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD)

The MWCD is a body within the GoI that focuses on the formulation, implementation and administration of the policies, regulations and laws relating to women and child development.

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## National Nutrition Mission (NNM)

The NNM is the Prime Minister's overarching scheme and

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flagship program for nutritional goals in India. It was launched by the GoI in 2018 with benchmark targets set for 2022. It is often referred to as “POSHAN Abhiyaan” as well.

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### One-time password (OTP)

An OTP is a password that is valid for only one login session or transaction, on a computer system or other digital device. Typically, OTPs have a short-term expiration.

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### Protein Digestibility-Corrected Amino Acid Score (PDCAAS)

PDCAAS is a method of determining the quality of a protein using both the amino acid requirements of humans and their ability to digest it.

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### Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW)

PLWs are women who are pregnant or lactating. They are one of the target beneficiaries of the ICDS program.

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### Program Officer (PO)

The PO is a state-level official of the Government’s ICDS program who is mandated with overseeing activities at the block level.

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### Quality control (QC)

QC is a system of maintaining standards in manufactured products by testing a sample of the output against the specification.

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### Quality assurance (QA)

QA is the maintenance of a desired level of quality in a service or product, especially by means of attention to every stage of the process of delivery or production.

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### Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA)

RDA is a system of nutrition intake recommendations for optimal health.

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### Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)

SAM is defined by a very low weight for height, typically below -3z scores of the median World Health Organization growth standards. SAM is the most extreme and visible form of undernutrition and accompanied by muscle wasting.

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### Supplementary Nutrition Program (SNP)

The SNP encompasses the nutrition services of the ICDS program of the GoI. Within SNP the government offers take-home rations as well as hot cooked meals for children.

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### Self-Help Group (SHG)

SHGs are composed of local women throughout India as part of the ICDS program. SHGs are responsible for producing and distributing take-home rations to AWCs. The GoI implemented the SHG model in order to incorporate women’s empowerment initiatives into the ICDS.

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### Take-Home Ration (THR)

THR are energy-dense micronutrient fortified food blends that are provided to children and PLW through the ICDS program, as part of the SNP. The goal of THR is to fill the nutrition gap in the diets of beneficiaries.

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### World Health Organization (WHO)

WHO is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is concerned with world public health.

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