Early Childhood Development, Multi-sectoral provisions

Ministry of Education

- Curriculum, Pedagogy, Assessment for EECE of 0-3 year-olds and 3-8 year olds;
- Special educators and schools for children with learning disabilities, and other defects and disabilities

Ministry of Women and Child Development

Pregnancy
- Nutrition support
- Counselling and follow-up for antenatal care, immunisation and child birth

0 – 6 years child (ICDS)
- Nutrition support to lactating women, and 6 month – 6 years children; Counselling of caregivers; Growth monitoring; Community-based management of malnutrition; Referral
- Early childhood care and education (ECCE); Improving school preparedness and enrolment; promote inclusive education
- Tracking immunisation, development and referral

Empowering adolescent girls and women; Day care crèches; Child care homes, Inclusive and equitable services

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Pregnancy
- Antenatal care, anaemia prevention, management
- High-risk identification and management
- Counselling for birth preparedness, childcare

Childbirth
- Respectful, safe delivery, birth companion
- Skin to skin contact,
- Breastfeeding within 1 hr, kangaroo mother care
- Management of asphyxia
- Screen at birth for birth defects

0 – 2 years child
(HBNYC)
- General care including Immunisation
- Child feeding
- Responsive and stimulating care
- Screening for 4 D's - Defects, Diseases, Deficiencies & Delay

2 – 8 years child
- General care including Immunisation
- Micronutrient supplementation; Manage malnutrition
- School health
- Water, sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

MCP card for tracking milestones and stimulation advise for first 1000 days

Other maternal, newborn and child health services; improving quality of institutional care

Early identification and intervention for delays, defects, deformities, diseases (RBSK) 0-18 years

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Support setting of Early intervention day care centres for 0-10 year children with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities; therapy for children and counselling for parents for school preparedness

Mechanisms for delivering and monitoring ECD interventions in WDCW & H&FW

The grassroots level work in WDCW is mainly delivered under the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) in *Anganwadi* centres (child play area) by *Anganwadi* workers (AWWs), while in H&FW they are delivered by community health workers Auxillary Nurse Midwife (ANMs) and Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs). They interact and support each other with regards to antenatal care, immunisation, growth monitoring, malnutrition management, and conducting health education sessions on special days. Although the AWWs and ASHAs represent different departments and are supervised by their respective supervisors, but at village level they are supposed to be monitored by same village level *Panchayats* (local governing bodies) via two different committees: Anganwadi Level Monitoring and Supervision Committee (ALMSC) and Village health, nutrition and sanitation committee (VHSNC). There are also provision of crèches and preschools under WDCW.

The nearest health services are provided at Primary Health Centre (PHC) or at the newly functional Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs). There are linkages between Do WDCW and H&FW for identification, management and referral for malnourished children to Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs), and identification and referral of children with delays and defects to District Early Intervention Centres (DEICs). The mobile teams of *Rashtriya Bal Suraksha Karyakaram* (RBSK) visit villages on 6 monthly basis to screen the children at *Anganawadi* centres for diseases, deficiencies, delays and defects, and mobilise referral to DEICs. The interlinkages for program administration and monitoring however do not exist except to some extent under *Poshan Abhiyan* for nutrition.