Ensuring Child Health and Nutrition: An ASHA's Role

- Communicating essential messages on prevention of malnutrition.
- Advising families on feeding practices and access to health and nutrition services.
- Counselling families for prevention of malnutrition and reversal of malnutrition in children below five years.
- Managing anemia in young children.
- Assessing children for malnutrition, determining the grade of malnutrition and addressing the problem, including urgent referral in severe cases.
- Tracking of children eligible for immunisation and ensuring complete immunisation coverage of all children.
- Ensuring that first dose of BCG is given soon after birth.
- Discussing immunisation with families of all eligible children and escorting mother and child to the PHC when the vaccine is due.
- Mobilising children for VPD, and paying special attention to ensure that the poorest and most marginalized children are able to access immunisation services.
- Assessing children for signs of illness and ensuring prompt referral.
- Assessing children for fever, enabling referral if required and starting first line of treatment.
- Managing diarrhoea, including counselling family on prevention, use of ORS and referral in severe cases.
- Diagnosing and managing acute respiratory infection and referral in serious cases.
- Helping home management for common cold and cough.