

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1232
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2024

OBJECTIVES OF RASHTRIYA MAHILA KOSH

1232. SHRI JAYANT SINHA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) The salient features and objectives of Rashtriya Mahila Kosh; and
- (b) the details of the loan schemes being implemented under Rashtriya Mahila Kosh along with the funds allocated, sanctioned, released and utilised in 2022-23, State-wise and particularly in Jharkhand, district-wise ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b) : Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) is a society, registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860 and an apex micro-finance organization established in 1993 under the aegis of Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD).

The main objective of setting up of RMK was to provide micro-credit to poor women for various livelihood support and income generating activities at concessional terms in a client-friendly procedure to bring about their socio-economic development.

The target beneficiaries are entrepreneurs from different economic activities viz., Agriculture, Horticulture, Pisciculture, Dairying, Poultry & Animal Husbandry, Traditional & Modern Handicraft, Small Business such as petty shop, teashop, vegetable & fruit shop etc., Working Capital, Asset creation & Asset redemption, Housing, and any other income generating activities in which borrowing women are capable to undertake for livelihood activities.

The Scheme/Loan products of RMK were – (i) Loan Promotion Scheme (ii) Main Loan Scheme (iii) Gold Credit Card Scheme (iv) Housing Loan Scheme and (v) Working Capital Term Loan.

The RMK has not sanctioned or disbursed any micro finance loans during the financial year 2022-23.

Over a period of time, substantial alternative credit facility mechanisms have become available to women entrepreneurs through various Government initiatives like Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojna and Stand up India. The activities being performed by RMK are being performed by Banks who have provided linkage to Self Help Groups (SHGs) of over Rs.8.15 lakh Crores till date under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-Nation Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). Nearly 10 crore households are now connected with over 90 Lakh Women SHGs that are transforming rural socio-economic landscape in several innovative and socially and ecologically responsible way.

Based on the report on 'rationalisation of autonomous bodies', by the then Principal Economic Advisor, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), a proposal of Ministry to close down 3 organisations, including 'Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)' was approved on 6th April, 2023. The services of all the regular employees of RMK have ceased to exist w.e.f. 31st December, 2023 and they have all been granted all benefits they are entitled to under Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme (SVRS). Further, all activities of RMK have been closed w.e.f. 31st December, 2023 and the outstanding loan portfolio has been transfer to SIDBI on 'as is where is basis' from the same date.
