

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1847
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2024

CARE AND SUPPORT TO VICTIMS OF SEXUAL OFFENCES

1847: SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE:
SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:
SHRI SHYAMKUMAR DAULAT BARVE:
SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT:

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

- (a) whether the Government has notified any scheme for care and support to victims under sections 4 and 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012;
- (b) if so, the objectives of the said scheme;
- (c) whether the said scheme is ineffective in its present form and needs further improvement;
- (d) if so, the issues noted in the recently notified 'Scheme for Care and Support to Victims under section 4 and 6 of the POCSO Act, 2012; and
- (e) the response of the Government thereto alongwith the steps taken by the Government to improve the same?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a)–(b): Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) from the financial year 2023-2024, has introduced a centrally funded scheme namely “Scheme for Care and Support to Victims under Section 4 & 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012” from NIRBHAYA Fund to address the challenges faced by the minor pregnant girl child victims for implementation by the State/UT Governments.

The main objectives of this Scheme are:

- i. To provide integrated support and assistance to minor pregnant girl child victims under one roof;
- ii. To facilitate their immediate, emergency and non-emergency access to a range of services for long term rehabilitation in terms of:
 - access to education,
 - police assistance,
 - medical (also comprising maternity, neo-natal and infant care),
 - psychological, mental health counselling,
 - legal support,
 - non-institutional care support, place of stay in Child Care Institutions/Aftercare facilities, and
 - health insurance cover for the girl child victim and her new-born baby under one roof to enable access to justice to such victimized girls.

(c) – (e): No ineffectiveness has been observed in the present form of the scheme.
