

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:39
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2000
DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL WOMEN
JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAYA;SHEELA GAUTAM

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes/projects launched by the Government for the economic development and empowerment of rural women during the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the funds allocated under each scheme , State-wise during the said period;
- (c) the norms fixed for the introduction of each scheme; and
- (d) the details of progress made under each scheme, State- wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 39 DUE FOR REPLY ON 25-7-2000

(a) & (b) : The Ministry of Rural Development implements various Rural Development Schemes to provide employment to disadvantaged sections of the society, through special employment generation programmes, so as to improve the quality of life in the rural areas. The major schemes, with Women's Component, which have been implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development during the last three years, include the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY), the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), the (erstwhile) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), the (erstwhile) Development of Women & Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) and the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY). Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP), the Women's Economic Programme (WEP) and the Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project (SWASHAKTI) are the schemes implemented by the Ministry of Human Resources Development. The allocations (or releases) under each Scheme, State-wise, during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are indicated at Annexe - I.

(c) : The norms determined for the Schemes are as follows:- The Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) is the restructured, comprehensive form of the erstwhile Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and has the rural poor as the target group. Wage employment under the Programme is afforded to Below Poverty Line families, out of which 30% should be reserved for women.

For the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), the target group consists of poor rural families whose per capita monthly expenditure does not exceed the poverty line, as estimated by the Planning Commission. The SGSY is to particularly focus on vulnerable groups among the rural poor, and women account for 40% of the beneficiaries.

The Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) is being implemented with the objective to provide dwelling units to people Below the Poverty Line in rural areas, mainly belonging to SC/STs. The Guidelines stipulate that allotment of dwelling units should be in the name of female member of the beneficiary household. Special plans have been formulated according to which, provision has been made in the School/ other Community buildings in the rural areas for separate sanitary latrines for women. Houses are to be designed with special convenience for women through provision for smokeless chulha, ventilation and adequate kitchen space.

The National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) extends financial assistance to old persons having little or no regular means of subsistence; to households living Below the Poverty Line, in case of death of the primary breadwinner; and to pregnant women of households Below the Poverty Line upto the first two live births.

The erstwhile Scheme of Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) (now merged with the SGSY) was intended to raise the income level of women of poor households so as to enable organised participation by them in social development for economic self-reliance. The primary thrust was the formation of groups of 10-50 women from poor households at the village level for the delivery of services like credit and skill training and cash and infrastructure support for self-employment.

The STEP Scheme is implemented through Public Sector Undertakings, Autonomous Bodies under Central/ State Governments and Voluntary Organisations registered under the Societies Registration Act/ corresponding State Acts. Under this Programme, upto 90% of the project cost is made available by the Government of India, while the remaining 10 % is to be borne by the Implementing Agency from its own sources or through sources other than the Government of India. Grants are released to the Implementing Agencies in two instalments each year. The Women's Economic Programme (WEP) aims at improving the life of poor women. Under this Programme, financial assistance is provided to Women Development Corporations, Public Sector Corporations, Autonomous Bodies and Voluntary Organisations to train women in traditional and non-traditional trades with the objective of providing sustained

employment to them. The Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project (SWASHAKTI PROJECT) is being implemented as a Centrally-sponsored Scheme to strengthen the processes of (and create an environment for) Empowerment of Women.

(d) The details of physical progress made under the Schemes, (excluding STEP, WEP and SWASHAKTI) state-wise, are contained in Annexure- II .