

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3467  
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2002  
NATIONAL POLICY ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN  
RAMSHETH THAKUR

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have finalized much awaited National Policy on Empowerment of Women recently;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) the extent to which this policy would help the women;
- (d) if not, the reasons for delay in formulation of said policy; and
- (e) the time by which the national Policy on Women is likely to be finalised?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a),(b)&(c) The Government has approved the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women on 20th March, 2001. The salient features of the Policy are given in the annexure.

The goal of the Policy is to bring about advancement, development and empowerment of women. It deals with all aspects relating to women in a comprehensive manner and integrate women's concerns and perspectives into all macro and micro level initiatives.

(d)&(e) Does not arise.

**ANNEXURE**

Statement in respect of reply to parts (a), (b) & (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.3467 for 6-8-2002 by Shri Ramsheth Thakur regarding National Policy on Empowerment of Women

Salient features of the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women.

The National Policy, which the Government of India had adopted, would guide and inform action at all levels and integrate women's concerns and perspectives into all macro and micro level initiatives. The Policy addresses a number of issues and in particular covers the following areas:-

- (i) De-jure and de-facto equality in rights, access and control over productive resources, including land, other forms of property, education, health, shelter etc. between men and women;
- (ii) Removal of all discriminating provisions (against women) all laws, policies, rules and regulations;
- (iii) Full and equal participation of women in all forms of decision making including the legislative, executive and judicial institutions by resorting to affirmative action such as reservation, wherever necessary;
- (iv) Acknowledge and disseminate women's contribution to the national economy;
- (v) Compulsory collection and publication of gender disaggregated statistics by all Ministries/Offices of the State/Central Governments;
- (vi) The imperative of keeping in view the needs of specially vulnerable groups of women; including Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/OBCs/Minorities, disabled, elderly, widowed women, inter-state migrant women etc;
- (vii) The holistic convergence of women related schemes, programmes and services effecting a synergy of development giving women control over and equal access to factors contributing to empowerment such as health, education, credit, land etc;
- (viii) Mainstreaming of women's perspectives in all developmental policies and process as catalysts, participants and recipients;
- (ix) Elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls by strict enforcement and strengthening of machineries responsible for the elimination of violence;
- (x) Positive portrayal of women in media;
- (xi) Involvement of all sections of society including NGOs, the Private Sector;

- (xi) Elimination of discrimination and violence of the rights of the girl child;
- (xii) Continuous and regular gender sensitization of all functionaries of the State, including the Executive, Judiciary and Legislative wings;
- (xiv) Including women's perspectives in macro economic policies by inter-alia ensuring their participation in such processes;
- (xv) Women's participation in the policies and programmes relating to the conservation of environment and management of eco-systems

2. The Policy also includes strategic actions required for implementation of various policy directions.