

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2487

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2006

NATIONAL PLAN FOR RURAL AND URBAN WOMEN

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Government has prepared any national plan to bridge the gap between rural and urban women;
- (b) if so, the salient features and the objective of the said plan; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for effective implementation of said plan?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a),(b)&(c) Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing various schemes and programmes for socio-economic empowerment of women, especially those who are poor and living in less developed regions like urban slums and rural areas. The schemes under implementation are: Swayamsidha, Swawlamban, Swa- shakti and Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women. These programmes encourage women to form Self Help Groups and also include provision for education, vocational training, credit, marketing linkages, awareness generation regarding health, nutrition, women's legal rights etc. The Central Social Welfare Board implements the scheme of Condensed Courses of Education for Women for providing skill upgradation and vocational training to girls and women above 15 years who had to discontinue school education or could not join mainstream education system due to adverse family circumstances or other constraints. The National Commission for Women has also recently, launched a programme viz. 'Chalo Gaon Ki Ore' with a view to empower rural women by making them aware of their rights and health issues peculiar to women.

Besides, the Government has also introduced "gender budgeting" to ensure that adequate resources, under developmental Schemes/Programmes being implemented its various Ministries/Departments, get allocated for women beneficiaries.

All these measures are expected to bridge the gap between the rural and urban women.