

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:543

ANSWERED ON:23.05.2006

CENTRAL SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD

Paswan Shri Sukdeo;Shaheen Shri Abdul Rashid;Yadav Shri Ram Kripal

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

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the performance of the Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the annual budgetary allocation/expenditure of CSWB for the last three years, Scheme-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding corruption in CSWB;
- (e) if so, the details thereof for each of the last three years; and
- (f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e) & (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a),(b),(c),(d),(e)&(f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 543 FOR 23.5.2006 BY SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV AND SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN REGARDING CENTRAL SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD

(a) Yes Sir

(b) The Expenditure Reforms Committee made the following recommendation for CSWB and its field units.

"Therefore, Government should consider whether Central Social Welfare Board is needed at all now. In any case, even if it is so to be continued, it should confine its activities to opinion building and social awareness. Viewed this way, there would be no need for field units of CSWB and these could be abolished. Besides, most States have State level Social welfare Boards. For the functions now proposed for CSWB, a staff strength of about 50-75 should prove sufficient".

2. One Member committee to review the working of CSWB and State Social Welfare Boards was constituted vide order dated 23.10.2000. Sh. T.N.Chaturvedi, M.P.(Rajya Sabha) was one member Committee and was assisted by Ms. Padma Seth, former Member of National Commission for Women and Sh. A.C.Tiwari, former D.A.G. of India. The Committee inter- alia recommended as under:

a) CSWB has played a pioneering role in mobilizing the initiative and support of a large number of Voluntary Organisations and social workers, particularly women workers, for building up a pluralistic and democratic administrative machinery for social service in the country.

b) The State Social Welfare Advisory Boards have also played a remarkable cooperative and supplementary role in this endeavour.

c) With their grass-root contacts and experience and related infrastructure, the CSWB and the state Boards can play the role of coordinator and evaluator of various schemes and programmes for the empowerment of women and welfare of children being run by various Ministries/Depts., particularly Department of Education, Min. of Social Justices and Empowerment, Min of Labour, Min. of Agriculture, Min. of Rural Development and Deptt. of WCD.

d) CSWB can perform this independent and coordinating role only if it is granted the statutory status, which will make it accountable and answerable to the Parliament without unnecessary restrictions in its day-to-day functioning.

e) Chairperson of the CSWB should be a non-official enjoying the rank of a Minister of State and similarly a suitable status should be given to the Chairperson of the State Boards.

3. The Sh. T.N.Chaturvedi Committee disagreed with the recommendation of ERC regarding reduction in the staff strength of CSWB

and its field organizations.

4. The recommendation of ERC was not accepted by former Human Resource Development Minister and the matter was taken up with the then Hon'ble Prime Minister in July, 2002. The Minister requested Hon'ble Prime Minister to review this recommendation of Expenditure Reforms Committee and recommended that instead of down-sizing Central Social Welfare Board/State Social Welfare Advisory Boards, 3 projects of Central Social Welfare Board namely – Border Area Project, Welfare Extension Centres, Demonstration Projects, which were non-expanding in nature and required to converge with the Integrated Child Development Scheme may be closed. This proposal was examined by the Committee of Secretaries under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary on 28.4.2004 and the Committee also agreed with the proposal..

5. Shri T.N.Chaturvedi's Report was further examined by a Departmental Committee. The Committee recommended that the Status-quo be maintained. This recommendation was accepted by the Department.

(c) As per Annexure I.

(d),(e)&(f) Complaints regarding corruption in Central Social Welfare Board are received from time to time and are dealt with in accordance with Law/Rules. The complaints received during the last 3 years are as under:

Year	Number of
Complaints	
2003	10
2004	5
2005	15