

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1613
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2011
UPLIFTMENT OF RURAL WOMEN
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the special schemes launched by the Government for the upliftment of rural women in the States/UTs.
- (b) the amount allocated under each scheme for the last three years;
- (c) whether any criteria has been fixed for launching of these schemes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government for upliftment of rural women in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN 'ADITYA')

(a)to(e): The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the scheme of Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) as a sub-component of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) now known as 'Aajeevika' with the objective of creating sustainable agriculture livelihood opportunities for women in agriculture. The Scheme was started in the year 2010-11 with an allocation of Rs. 100 crore and Rs. 200 crore has been allocated during the current financial year. Aajeevika is a self-employment programme under which rural poor are organized into Self Help Groups (SHGs), given training for their capacity building and are provided assistance in the form of subsidy and bank credit in order to set up economic activities. Under the scheme, women will account for at least 40 per cent of the total Swarozgaris.

Besides, the Ministry is also implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Development Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) which having special provisions for rural women.

MGNREGA is a demand driven wage-employment guarantee programme which seeks to provide supplementary means of livelihood for the rural people while simultaneously aiming at creating durable assets and strengthening the livelihood resource base of the rural poor. Adult members of any rural household may apply for employment under the Act subject to a maximum of 100 days of employment in a financial year per household. It has been provided that priority shall be given to women in such a way that at least one-third of the beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested for work under the Act. There are no predetermined targets and allocation of funds under the Act.

Under IAY, the house is allotted in the name of women member of rural BPL household or jointly in the name of husband and wife. There is no provision for separate allocation of funds for the women under these programme guidelines.