

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2527
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2011
SCHEMES FOR EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL WOMEN
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is taking any steps to launch schemes that would empower women in rural India by giving them access to credit, to buy a house or to start their own business;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has an assessment of the number of women that have taken advantage of such schemes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY), under implementation since April, 1999, is designed as a holistic self employment scheme aimed at providing sustainable income to rural BPL families through income generating assets / economic activities so as to bring them above the poverty line. SGSY is basically a women centric programme. SGSY, with the intention of women empowerment which includes social, economical and political empowerment & inclusive growth has inbuilt mechanism to safeguard their interests. Under SGSY, 50% of the self- help groups formed in each block should be exclusively for the women. The guideline also provides that 40% of the total swarozgaries assisted in a year should be women.

SGSY has now been restructured as National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), now renamed as `Aajeevika` to implement it in a mission mode in a phased manner for targeted and time bound delivery of results. The proposed NRLM under the redesigned SGSY is expected to act as a vehicle for women empowerment. NRLM will ensure availability of credit at reasonable rates of interest to SHG members both for meeting their consumption needs and for taking up income generating activities.

To enhance the opportunities for women empowerment, Government of India has announced `Manila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana` (MKSP), as a sub component of the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM). MKSP recognizes the centrality of women in agriculture and therefore aims to provide direct and indirect support to enable them to achieve sustainable agriculture production. The Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) has been asked to provide end-to-end services through linking up women farmers with the Community Based Organizations providing access to a complete package of options from credit, insurance and inputs, to procurement, value addition and marketing of produce.

Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) being implemented by this Ministry since, 1985-86 does not provide separate earmarking of financial benefits and physical targets to women. However, as per the IAY Guidelines, the houses constructed are to be allotted in the name of female member of the beneficiary household. Alternatively, it can be allotted in the name of both husband and wife. In case, there is no eligible female member in the family available/alive, IAY house can be allotted in the name of a male member of the eligible BPL family.

(c)&(d): Since inception of the Scheme, about 102.73 lakh women swarozgaries have been assisted under it which is more than 60% of the total swarozgaries assisted during the aforesaid period. Under MKSP Total 33 projects from six states have been sanctioned during 2010-11. These projects will benefit a total of 22,38,700 beneficiaries.

A statement showing details of physical target set, houses constructed/sanctioned and the houses allotted in the name of women and joint the name both husband and wife under IAY during the 11th Five Year Plan is given (in lakh) below:

Year	Physical Target	Houses Constructed / sanctioned	Houses allotted/ jointly sanctioned	Houses allotted to women both husband & wife
------	-----------------	---------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--

2007-08	21.27	19.92	13.01	6.44
---------	-------	-------	-------	------

2008-09 21.27 30.14 17.18 9.02

2009-10 40.52 42.27 25.28 10.99

2010-11 29.08 33.48 20.29 8.90

2011-12 27.27 23.10 14.16 4.61