

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3518

ANSWERED ON:14.12.2012

EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL WOMEN

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

- (a) whether the condition of women especially poor and rural women in the country is very pitiable and needs economic empowerment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the country's latest position vis-à-vis other developed countries in this regard in the survey, if any, conducted by the Government;
- (c) the details of schemes being implemented by the Government for economic empowerment of poor and rural women in the country;
- (d) whether the Government has made any assessment/survey of number of women that have been benefited from the schemes being implemented for economic empowerment of rural women in the country; and
- (e) if so, the State/UT-wise details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) & (b): As per National Family Health Survey III (2005-06) data, 35.4% of women in the age group of 15-49 and approximately 40% of women in case of ever married women have experienced physical or sexual violence. 6.7% of all women have experienced both physical and sexual forms of domestic violence. Further, the data suggests that both physical and sexual forms of domestic violence against women are higher in rural as compared to urban areas. No survey has been conducted by the Government to compare the position viz-a-viz other developed countries.

(c): Ministry of Women & Child Development is administering following schemes for economic empowerment of women in the country:-

i. NATIONAL MISSION FOR EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN (NMEW) is an initiative of the Government of India for empowering women holistically. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme sanctioned in April 2011 with a mandate to strengthen inter-sectoral convergence.

ii. SUPPORT TO TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME (STEP) for Women was launched as a Central Sector Scheme during 1986-87. It aims at making a significant impact on women by upgrading skills for self and wage employment. The target group includes marginalized assetless rural women and urban poor.

iii. RASHTRIYA MAHILA KOSH (RMK) with a corpus of Rs.100 crore extends micro-finance services to bring about the socio-economic upliftment of poor women.

iv. Priyadarshini, is a Self Help Group (SHG) based project for holistic empowerment of women and adolescent girls. The scheme is implemented in 7 districts falling in the Mid-Gangetic plains of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

(d): No, Madam.

(e): Does not arise.