

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:779
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013
CONDITIONS OF WIDOWS IN HOLY PLACES
Singh Smt. Meena

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of oppression of widows in a number of holy places in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for their rehabilitation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the funds sanctioned, released and utilized by the States/UTs during each of the last three years and the current year for the purpose?

Answer

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

- (a) to (d): The Government is implementing Swadhar Scheme since 2001-2002 with a view to addressing specific vulnerability of each group of women in difficult circumstances through a home based holistic and integrated approach. The scheme through the provision of shelter, food, clothing, counseling, training, clinical and legal aid aims to rehabilitate the women in difficult circumstances. Widows deserted by their families and relatives and left uncared near religious places are also target group beneficiaries of this scheme.
- v(e): Funds under the scheme are released to implementing agencies which include non-governmental organizations and State Government bodies. Details of funds released during last three years and current year, state wise, are given in Annexure.