

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:61
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2015
SUPPORT TO TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SCHME
George Shri (Adv.) Joice;Raghavan Shri M. K.

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

- (a) the objectives of the Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP) for women including sectors/trades covered for ensuring sustainable employability along with funding norms prescribed for availing assistance under the scheme;
- (b) the details of fund released and utilized and the number of the beneficiaries who secured jobs during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to cover more trades/sectors for imparting vocational training under STEP so as to achieve the target of training/skilling 500 million people by 2022 and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to amalgamate STEP with other skill development schemes, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) to Lok Sabha Starred Question no. 61 for 27.02.2015 by Adv. Joice George and Shri M.K. Raghavan regarding "Support to Training and Employment Scheme.

(a): The objectives of Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP) are to provide skills that give employability to women and to provide competencies and skills that enable women to become self-employed/entrepreneurs. The assistance under the STEP scheme will be available in any sector for imparting skills related to employability and entrepreneurship, including but not limited to the Agriculture, Horticulture, Food Processing, Handlooms, Tailoring, Stitching, Embroidery, Zari etc, Handicrafts, Computer & IT enabled services along with soft skills and skills for the work place such as spoken English, Gems & Jewellery, Travel & Tourism, Hospitality. The financial assistance under STEP will be subject to the following limits:

Sl. No	Cost Item	Ceiling per beneficiary (3 month course)	Ceiling per beneficiary (6 month course)
1.	Training Cost	Rs. 14,000	Rs. 20,000
2.	Food & Travel Cost	Rs. 4,000	Rs. 8,000
	Total Cost	Rs. 18,000	Rs. 28,000

The cost of providing refreshments may not exceed Rs. 40 per day per beneficiary. The Project costing may include heads like mobilization of beneficiaries, preparation of curriculum, equipment, raw material, and teaching aids. Acquisition costs of equipment may form a part of the project, but may not exceed 10% of the project cost supported by the Ministry of Women & Child development. Further, the financial assistance to meet a maximum of 90% of the project cost can be sanctioned by the Government of India. The remaining 10% will have to be borne by the implementing agency from its own resources.

(b): The details of fund released and utilized along with number of beneficiaries, during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise is at ANNEXURE-I. However, as regard the number of beneficiaries who secured jobs during each of the last three years and the current year under this Scheme is concerned, this Ministry does not maintain such data.

(c): As per the Revised Guidelines of the STEP Scheme-2014, assistance will be available in any sector for imparting skills related to employability and entrepreneurship, including but not limited to Agriculture, Horticulture, Food Processing, Handlooms, Tailoring, Stitching, Embroidery, Zari etc, Handicrafts, Computer & IT enabled services along with soft skills and skills for the work place such as spoken English, Gems & Jewellery, Travel & Tourism, Hospitality.

(d): Presently the STEP Scheme is implemented as per the Guidelines formulated by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. Although other sector specific Ministries and State Governments have skill development programmes of their own, the Ministry of Women and Child Development being the nodal Ministry for Women's issues has taken up the STEP Scheme for implementing skills

that provide employability to women.