

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3347**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.07.2019

**EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS**

3347. SHRI UPENDRA SINGH RAWAT:  
SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE:

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

- (a) whether any steps have been taken by the Government for empowerment of women in the rural areas of the country in the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to involve NGOs and other private organizations working in this direction and to provide them encouragement and support from the Government in this regard: and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

- (a) to (c): Yes Sir. Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme under Ministry of Women and Child Development was approved in November 2017 as a centrally sponsored scheme, to empower rural women through community participation. The scheme envisages community engagement through college student volunteers in 115 aspirational districts as part of block level initiatives; capacity building of women collectives in not more than 50% of the blocks in the aspirational districts; District Level Centre for Women (DLCW) in 640 districts to facilitate women centric schemes and to provide foothold for Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme; State Resource Centre for Women to support the respective State Government/UT Administration in implementation of women centric schemes/programs including BBBP Scheme.
- (d) & (e): Under the Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme Capacity Building of Women Collectives is envisaged in not more than 50% of the MSK blocks in 115 aspirational districts to address the livelihood needs of the women particularly those in remote/vulnerable areas where women are not in a position to move out from their immediate surroundings for formal skill training. This component is to be implemented in collaboration of NGO's/ Cooperative Societies/ Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

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