

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UN- STARRED QUESTION NO: 4255
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2019

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

4255. SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE:

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

- (a) the various programmes undertaken for women empowerment in the last five years;
- (b) the number of women who have been empowered so far in the last five years, State-wise; and
- (c) the various women empowerment schemes being implemented in rural areas of Assam and the outcomes achieved so far?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (c): The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing various schemes for the empowerment of women across the country including the State of Assam. The details of major schemes are as under:
 - i. Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme aims to empower rural women through community participation. The scheme envisages community engagement through College Student Volunteers to empower rural women in 115 aspirational districts as part of block level initiatives. District Level Centre for Women (DLCW) in 640 districts and State Resource Centre for Women support the respective government in States/UTs towards implementation of women centric schemes and BBBP program. Under Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme block level activities for empowerment of rural women has been approved for 7 aspirational districts namely, Dhubri, Goalpara, Barbeta, Darrang, Baksa, Udalguri and Hailakandi.
 - ii. Swadhar Greh scheme targets women victims of unfortunate circumstances who are in need of institutional support for rehabilitation so that they can lead their life with dignity. The number of women benefitted under Swadhar Greh Scheme for current FY is 12,890. In Assam, 15 Swadhar Grehs are functional and 6288 women have benefitted during the last 5 years.
 - iii. Ujjawala is a comprehensive scheme with the objective to prevent trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation, to facilitate rescue victims and placing them in safe custody, to provide rehabilitation services by providing basic amenities/needs, to facilitate reintegration of victims into the family and society, to facilitate repatriation of cross border victims. The number of women benefitted under Ujjawala Scheme for current financial year is 5427. In Assam, 20 Ujjawala homes are functional and 21880 women have benefitted during last 5 years.

- iv. Working Women Hostel aims at providing safe and affordable accommodation to working women. These hostels have day care facility for the children of inmates too. The Ministry provides financial support for establishing such hostels by NGOs or State Governments. The additional number of women who would benefit under Working Women Hostels for the current FY 2019-20 is 750. There are 11 Working Women Hostels functional in the state of Assam.
- v. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme is a tri-ministerial initiative of Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health & Family Welfare and Human Resource Development with a focus on awareness and advocacy campaign for changing mindsets, multi-sectoral action in select districts, enabling girls' education and effective enforcement of Pre-Conception & Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act. The specific objectives of the scheme is to address declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) by preventing gender biased sex selective elimination; ensuring survival and protection of the girl child and ensuring education and participation of the girl child. In the State of Assam, BBBP Scheme is being implemented in Kamrup (M) district since January 2015 and two other districts namely Dhemaji and Cachar since 2019.
- vi. Women Helpline Scheme (WHL) is being implemented since 1st April, 2015 to provide 24 hours emergency and non-emergency response to women affected by violence through referral and information about women related government schemes/programmes across the country through a single uniform number (181). WHL also supports women in distress with rescue van and counselling services in addition to providing information about women welfare schemes and programs across the country. Women Helpline is operational in 32 States/UTs. In Assam, Women Helpline Scheme is being implemented since April 2018 and 1660 women have availed services under the scheme.
- vii. One Stop Centre (OSC) facilitates access to an integrated range of services including police, medical, legal, psychological support and temporary shelter to women affected by violence. The Scheme is funded through the Nirbhaya Fund. Under the scheme, One Stop Centres are being set up in all districts of the country. So far, 728 OSCs have been approved to be set up in all States/UTs. Out of these, 614 OSCs have been set up across 35 States/UTs which have provided assistance to over 2.27 lakh women. In the state of Assam, One Stop Centre Scheme is being implemented in the districts of Kamrup (M), Nagaon, Cachar, Karimganj and Jorhat since 2017 and has been approved for all 33 districts in 2019 which have provided assistance to 1458 women.
- viii. Mahila Police Volunteers (MPVs) Scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs. It envisages engagement of Mahila Police Volunteers in States/UTs who act as a link between police and community and facilitates women in distress. The Mahila Police Volunteers are empowered, responsible, socially aware women fostering linkage for the women needing assistance and law enforcements with various government programmes and initiatives. At least 1 MPV shall be engaged in each and every Panchayat/Ward. Bigger villages can have more than one Volunteers depending upon the area/requirement. At present, MPV Scheme is approved for 12 States namely Mizoram (Aizawl & Lunglei), Karnataka (Gulbarga & Bagalkote), Jharkhand (Ranchi & Dhanbad), Haryana (Karnal & Mahendranagar), Andhra Pradesh (all districts), Gujarat (Surat & Ahmedabad), Chhattisgarh (Korea & Durg), Madhya Pradesh (Vidisha & Morena), Tripura (West Tripura & Gomti), Nagaland (Dimapur & Longleng), Uttarakhand (Haridwar and Udham Singh Nagar) and Andaman & Nicobar Islands with over 9531 Volunteers. However, for Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Tripura, Nagaland and Uttarakhand, MPV Scheme is under process of operationalization.
