

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2543
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2023

SCHEME FOR SELF EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN

2543 SMT. KANTA KARDAM:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- a. whether Government has launched any scheme for self-employment of women; and
- b. if so, the details thereof, especially in respect of the State of Uttar Pradesh?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Government has taken a number of initiatives to encourage self-employment of women across the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh. Some of the initiatives are as under:

- i. The Government of India is providing training to women through a network of Women Industrial Training Institutes, National Vocational Training Institutes and Regional Vocational Training Institutes under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY).
- ii. To economically empower women, 81% of loans of sizes from Rs.10 Lakhs to Rs. 1 crore under '**Stand-Up India**' have been made available to women.
- iii. Under '**MUDRA**' (or **Prime Minister's Micro-Units Development & Refinance Agency**) **Yojana**, 68% loans sized up to Rs. 10 Lakhs have been sanctioned to women-owned and operated enterprises.
- iv. **Under National Rural Livelihoods Mission**, over 8.5 crore women are connected with around 82 lakh women's self-help groups that are transforming the rural socio-economic landscape in several innovative and socially and ecologically responsible ways, also availing governmental support including through collateral free loans.
- v. With special attention towards entrepreneurship, under the **Start-up India** Initiative, a large number of loans have been disbursed to women-led enterprises.
- vi. **National Agriculture Market or e-NAM**, an online trading platform for agricultural commodities, "**Kisan Call Centres**" answering farmers' queries on a telephone call in their own dialect, mobile applications like **Kisan Suvidha** are helping women overcome or compensate the barriers they face in accessing markets and extension services.

- vii. **National Cooperative Development Corporation** is playing a significant role to uplift women cooperatives as large number of women are engaged and involved in cooperatives dealing with activities related to food grain processing, plantation crops, oilseeds processing, fisheries, dairy & livestock, spinning mills, handloom and power loom weaving, Integrated Cooperative Development Projects, etc.
- viii. **Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture** imparting training for skills development to women, provide more subsidy/ assistance to women farmers, beneficiaries as compared to general category farmers. Under Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure component, women are eligible for subsidy at higher rates to procure agricultural machinery, implements and equipment under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization.
- ix. To provide Government-to-Citizen (G2C) e-Services within the reach of the citizen, over 5.4 lakh Common Service Centres have been set up, thus creating the physical service delivery ICT infrastructure. These centres are spread across the country and provide a range of digital services in the rural areas, creating rural digital entrepreneurs of whom over 67,000 are women entrepreneurs.
- x. **Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM)** has been launched to ensure old age protection for unorganised Workers who are not covered by any other pension scheme. The unorganised workers including women, mostly engaged as home based workers, street vendors, mid-day meal workers, head loaders, brick kiln workers, cobblers, rag pickers, domestic workers, washer men, rickshaw pullers, landless labourers, agricultural workers, construction workers, beedi workers, handloom workers, leather workers, audio- visual workers and similar other occupations whose monthly income is Rs 15,000/ per month or less and belong to the entry age group of 18-40 years.

Further, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has taken a number of initiatives to empower women through the schemes and programmes implemented in the country. During the 15th Finance Commission period, the Ministry implements '**Mission Shakti**', an Integrated Women Empowerment Programme, as Umbrella Scheme for the Safety, Security and Empowerment of Women. It aims to strengthen interventions for safety, security and empowerment of women in a mission mode through institutional and convergence mechanism for greater efficiency, effectiveness and financial prudence.

The Umbrella Scheme of '**Mission Shakti**' has two sub-schemes namely "Sambal" for safety and security of women and "Samarthya" for empowerment of women. Under 'Samarthya' sub- scheme, a new component i.e. Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW) has been included with the aim to facilitate inter-sectoral convergence of schemes and programs meant for women at the Central, State/ UT and District levels for creating an environment in which women are able to realize their full potential. The support under the HEW provides for guiding, linking and hand holding women to various institutional and schematic set ups for their empowerment and development including access to healthcare, quality education, career and vocational counseling/ training, financial inclusion, entrepreneurship, backward and forward linkages, health and safety for workers, social security and digital literacy at districts/ Blocks/ Gram Panchayats level across the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh.
