

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -3322**  
ANSWERED ON - 29/03/2023

**NON-ALLOCATION OF BUDGET FOR TRANSGENDER IN BUDGET 2023-24**

3322. SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM  
DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government has any justification to the absence of transgender persons in schemes pertaining to education, healthcare, employment, housing, violence, discrimination mitigation, and political representation;
- (b) whether the budgetary allocation under the SMILE scheme has significantly declined, if so, the reasons therefor and measures taken by Government for the same; and
- (c) the rationale behind zero allocation for Transgender Persons in the budget of 2023-24?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
(SUSHRI PRATIMA BHOUMIK)

- (a) No Sir. Government does not exclude Transgender Persons from any of its schemes.

Section 8(2) of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) 2019 states that The appropriate Government shall take such welfare measures as may be prescribed to protect the rights and interests of transgender persons, and facilitate their access to welfare schemes framed by that Government.

Further, the Act also has provision for formulating welfare schemes and programmes which are transgender sensitive, non-stigmatising and non-discriminatory.

- (b) & (c) No Sir. Budget allocation for SMILE scheme has increased to Rs. 72.90 Crore in FY 2023-24 from Rs. 45.00 Crore in FY 2022-23 which includes budget for Transgender Persons.

\*\*\*\*\*