

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1279**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2023

**WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

1279. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY

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

- (a) the details of specific measures Government plans to adopt to enhance tracking of spending on gender equality and women's empowerment in light of India's consideration to revamp its annual budget with a focus on ex-ante gender budgeting;
- (b) whether Ministry intends to ensure that the proposed changes, including the gender budget statement with cross-sectoral allocations, lead to more impactful outcomes and contribute to advancing gender equality across various sectors; and
- (c) the details on any legislative or policy changes that will be proposed to facilitate this transformation?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): The Budget Circular issued by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance every year mandates all Ministries/Departments to report allocations for women in the prescribed format, viz. Gender Budget Statement (Statement 13) in two parts i.e., Part A (100% women specific schemes) and Part B (schemes having 30-99% allocation for women) to accompany the budget submissions for the Financial Year.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development, as the nodal Ministry, has been making efforts to strengthen gender budgeting through capacity building of the Government officers and supporting them to undertake analysis of their respective schemes from a gender lens and thereby report budgetary allocations in the Gender Budget Statement.

During the FY 2023-24, a total of 43 Ministries/Departments (including 5 UTs) reported an allocation of Rs. 2.23 lakh crore under gender budget statement, which is an increase of about 30% over the last year's allocation of Rs. 1.71 lakh crore.

The Ministry aims to achieve 100% coverage of Gender Budgeting across all Central Ministries/Departments, States/UTs, urban wards and Panchayats as part of

its umbrella scheme 'Mission Shakti'. Towards this, the Ministry has been undertaking capacity building programmes through various National and State level training Institutes.

The existing Gender Budget Statement (Statement 13) limits reporting of the schemes having less than 30% allocations of the total budget of the respective schemes. It is estimated that a sizable proportion of the allocation is underreported in the Gender Budget Statement due to the current ceiling of 30%. Accordingly, based on the recommendation of the Working Group which was constituted to review the format and methodology of the GBS, the Government plans to include a Part C for all those schemes having less than 30% allocation for women. This is expected to holistically reflect the allocations for women by the Government and its commitment towards gender equality and women empowerment.

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