

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*341**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2025

**GENDER BUDGET**

\*341. SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE:

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

- (a) whether Government acknowledges the significant decline in budgetary allocation for schemes directly addressing women's employment and entrepreneurship, such as the PM Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP); if so, the rationale behind this reduction despite the stated goal of increasing female workforce participation;
- (b) whether Government has assessed the impact of decreased funding for key gender-focused education initiatives, such as the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) allocation drop from Rs. 551.25 crore in 2024-25 to Rs. 229.25 crore in 2025-26; if so, details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 341 FOR REPLY ON 02.04.2025 ASKED BY SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE REGARDING 'GENDER BUDGET'**

(a) & (b): Ministry of Women and Child Development provides capacity building and technical support to central Ministries/Departments/States/UTs to advance their gender budgeting processes for further improving gender equality and women's empowerment. The gender budget allocations, which are compiled as Statement 13 of the Expenditure Profile of Union Budget, are prepared by Ministries/Departments/UTs for their schemes/programmes. Ministries/Departments/UTs and their implementing agencies utilize their resources to achieve the objectives of their schemes/programmes.

Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), implemented by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, is a credit-linked subsidy programme that aims to generate employment opportunities by assisting prospective entrepreneurs in setting up new enterprises especially in rural areas. Under PMEGP, the gender budget allocation of Rs. 920.00 crore was reported in BE 2024-25, whereas the Revised Estimate was increased to Rs. 1012.50 crore. An allocation of Rs. 862.50 crore has been reported in gender budget Statement in the BE 2025-26. Funds are utilised on the basis of the actual demand generated and loans sanctioned by the financial institutions pan-India. Banks appraise the projects both technically and economically and sanction the projects on the basis of viability of each project. The number of women entrepreneurs assisted under PMEGP has increased from 32,626 in FY 2022-23 to 36,806 in FY 2023-24.

Budget allocation under specific schemes included in the Gender Budget statement is seen in the context of overall budgetary allocation under their respective Demand(s), which is decided taking into account pace of expenditure, unspent balances (if any) lying under schemes(s) with implementing agencies and available sanctioned space etc. These allocations are reviewed on regular basis by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance including at the Revised Estimates stage in the context of above.

In National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT), implemented by Department of Higher Education, the gender budget allocation of Rs. 168.00 crore was reported in BE 2024-25. Gender budget allocation of Rs. 229.25 crore has been reported in BE 2025-26, which is an increase of 36% over BE 2024-25 amount.

In Statement 13 of the Expenditure Profile of 2025-26, total allocation for Gender Budget of Government of India has increased from about Rs. 3.27 lakh crore in BE 2024-25 to Rs. 4.49 lakh crore in BE 2025-26, which is an increase of 37.25% over the previous year's allocation. The share of the gender budget in the total Union Budget has also increased to 8.86% in BE 2025-26 from 6.8% in BE 2024-25. Gender Budget allocations for various women centric employment generation schemes such as National Rural Livelihood Mission, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, PM Vishwakarma, etc have increased in the BE 2025-26. Details are provided in the Statement No. 13 of Expenditure Profile, 2025-26 available at <https://indiabudget.gov.in>.

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