GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2080 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2025

REFORMS IN NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN (NCW)

2080. MS. SUSHMITA DEV:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any step to review and amend the National Commission for Women Act, 1990, as recommended by the Parliamentary Committee on the Empowerment of Women and various expert bodies, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is considering measures to enhance the institutional independence, financial autonomy, and legal authority of the NCW, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to make NCW recommendations binding or ensure implementation within a stipulated timeframe, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that the Commission acts independently and impartially?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

(a): The National Commission for Women draws its powers from the provisions of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990. The Commission has powers to investigate and examine all matters relating to the safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws, review from time to time the existing provisions of the Constitution and other laws affecting women and recommend amendments thereto, take up the cases of violation of the provisions of the Constitution and of other laws relating to women with the appropriate authorities.

Further, under sub-section 4 of Section 10 of the NCW Act, the Commission while investigating any matter referred to in clause (a) or sub-clause (i) of clause (f) of sub-section (1), have all the powers of a Civil Court while trying a suit and, in particular, in respect of the matters namely - (i) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of

India and examining him on oath, (ii) receiving evidence on affidavits (iii) requiring the discovery and production of any document, (iv) requisitioning any public record or copy thereof from any court or office, and, (v) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses and documents.

The Government is also making concerted efforts for protection of women and girls and advancing their rights by addressing the issue of safety and security through various schematic and legislative interventions.

- (b) to (c): Review of policies, programmes and legislations is a continuous process, and based on stakeholder recommendations, suggestions and consultations, Government takes appropriate measures to amend laws, policies and programmes from time to time
- (d): The National Commission for Women (NCW) functions independently and impartially as mandated under various Sections of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.
