

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 471
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2026

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

471. SHRI P. WILSON:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the observations of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on EWCY&S that the Budget Estimate of only ₹36 crore for the National Commission for Women is grossly inadequate for effectively discharging of its statutory mandate of protecting and promoting the rights of women across the country and that the Commission requires substantially higher financial support;
- (b) whether Government proposes to substantially enhance the budgetary allocation for the National Commission for Women, fill all existing vacancies in statutory bodies and frontline institutions and strengthen women and child welfare mechanisms; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Budget Estimate (BE) for National Commission for Women (NCW) for FY 2025-26 was ₹ 28 Crores and subsequently increased to ₹ 38.41 Crore at Revised Estimate (RE) stage based on the projection of activities by NCW. Against the Revised Estimate of ₹38.41 crore, the NCW incurred an expenditure of ₹37.87 crore. The Commission has undertaken various activities for effectively discharging its statutory mandate of protecting and promoting the rights of women across the country. A brief of major activities/initiatives undertaken by the Commission is placed at **Annexure-I**.

The filling of the posts is a continuous process. The vacancies in statutory bodies and frontline institutions are filled in accordance with the relevant Acts, rules, and administrative procedures. Further, the Government has undertaken several measures to strengthen women and child welfare mechanisms under Mission Shakti and Mission Vatsalya. A brief of such activities is placed at **Annexure II**.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (C) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 471 FOR ANSWER ON 22.07.2026 REGARDING “NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN” RAISED BY SHRI P. WILSON

A brief of major achievements and initiatives by NCW during FY 2025–26

- i. The National Commission for Women (NCW) undertook significant policy initiatives during 2025–26 to strengthen the legal and institutional framework for women’s rights.
- ii. The Commission issued a nationwide advisory for effective implementation of the POSH Act through mandatory compliance audits, organized regional consultations on Cyber Laws Affecting Women.
- iii. The Commission strengthened grievance redressal and enforcement through proactive interventions and redressed 50,796 complaints through sustained follow-up with States.
- iv. The Commission handled 348 NRI matrimonial complaints during the year.
- v. The Commission responded to over 2.11 lakh calls through the 24×7 Women Helpline (14490).
- vi. The Commission took Suo Motu cognizance and monitored 280 cases involving crimes and rights violations against women.
- vii. The Commission expanded its outreach and capacity-building initiatives across the country. Through Shakti Samvaad and Rashtriya Mahila Aayog Aapke Dwar, which strengthened collaboration with State Women Commissions and conducted 222 Jan Sunwai programmes.
- viii. The Commission conducted Capacity-building workshops for District Magistrates, Superintendents of Police, police personnel, and CAPFs and enhanced gender-sensitive governance. Also, over 15,000 frontline personnel were sensitized on women’s safety and trafficking issues.
- ix. Commission’s Yashoda AI initiative, a digital tool for improving access to information and support for women's empowerment, benefited around 8,000 Women across universities, police academies, government departments, SHGs, and educational institutions in 13 States and Union Territories.
- x. The Commission, through its Campus Calling Programme, conducted 185 POSH Act and gender sensitization programmes, reaching approximately 19,500 students across higher education institutions in Meerut, Ghaziabad, Noida, Jammu, Delhi, Bengaluru, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Indore, Jalandhar, and Hazaribagh.

- xi. The Commission organized Awareness and Capacity Building Programmes in collaboration with State Women Commissions and funded 22 State Women Commissions for organizing a minimum of two State specific Law reviews, and six Awareness and Capacity Building Programmes in each State on the following themes:
 - a. Consultations on State-Specific Laws and Legal Issues Affecting Women/Central laws if no State Specific law in existence
 - b. Training Programmes for Coordinators, Counsellors, and Medical Personnel of One Stop Centres (OSCs)
 - c. Awareness Programmes on the Issue of Stalking
 - d. Programme on Yashoda AI
 - e. Awareness Programme on a State-Specific Issue of Relevance to Women to address region-specific challenges affecting women through targeted awareness and community engagement.
- xii. The Commission launched the SHAKTI Scholars Fellowship to support policy-oriented research by young students and researchers on gender equality, women's safety, dignity, legal rights, violence against women, cyber safety, labour rights, mental health, displacement, and other women-centric themes.
- xiii. The Commission approved nine women-centric research projects to support evidence-based policymaking.

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A brief of the measures taken by MWCD to strengthen women and child welfare mechanisms under Mission Shakti and Mission Vatsalya

Mission Shakti: An umbrella scheme which has two verticals ‘Sambal’ for safety and security of women and ‘Samarthya’ for empowerment of women. A list of initiative under this Umbrella Scheme is as under:

One Stop Centre (OSC) Scheme is one of the components of sub- scheme Sambal which aims to provide a range of services in an integrated manner under one roof for violence affected women (VAW) both in private and public spaces.

The Women Helpline (181) provides toll free 24- hours telecom service to women seeking support and information connecting them with Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) for all emergency services like police/fire/Ambulance services.

Sakhi Niwas Scheme [Working Women Hostel (WWH)] under the umbrella Mission aims to promote availability of safe and conveniently located accommodation for working women and for those women who are pursuing higher education/training, with Day care facility for children in urban, semi-urban and even rural areas where employment opportunity for women exists.

Palna Scheme a Scheme under the Samarthya Vertical of Umbrella Mission Shakti provides day care facilities and protection to children. To address difficulties faced by the working mothers in giving due child care and protection to their children, day-care crèche facilities are being provided through Palna Scheme.

Shakti Sadan, an Integrated Relief and Rehabilitation Home, which caters to the needs of women who are destitute, distressed, marginalized, or victims of trafficking. These homes provide shelter, healthcare, psychological counselling, and skill development, aiming to reintegrate victims into society.

SANKALP – Hub for Empowerment of Women under the "Samarthya" 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.

Nirbhaya Fund a non-lapsable fund called 'Nirbhaya Fund' started with just one or two projects a decade ago, and has now grown to 49 Projects, being implemented both nationwide and regionally, with an outlay of more than Rs. 13,815 Crores. The Projects under Nirbhaya Fund have features like direct impact on safety and security concerns of women, provision of optimum use of existing infrastructure, innovative use of technology, provision for real time intervention as far as possible, such as CCTVs for safety of women which ensures real time monitoring of footage and quick response.

Mission Shakti Portal and Mobile App- Ministry has launched the '**Mission Shakti Portal**' with all functional features on January 22, 2025. This portal aims to enhance accessibility of various government services for women, establish quality mechanisms for rescue, protection, and rehabilitation, and build the capacity of functionaries and duty holders under various schemes and legislations.

The Mission Shakti **Mobile App** is an initiative by the Ministry to enhance accessibility to support services for women. The app ensures quick, reliable, and inclusive access to essential services for women nationwide.

Sexual Harassment Electronic Box (SHe-Box) Portal (<https://shebox.wcd.gov.in/>) provides single-window access for women across all sectors to file complaints of sexual harassment, thereby ensuring ease of reporting and accessibility.

Bal Vivah Mukht Bharat Campaign and BVMB Portal – The Ministry launched a national campaign '**Bal Vivah Mukht Bharat**' on 27th November 2024 to eliminate child marriages across the country and also launched a '**Bal Vivah Mukht Bharat**' portal, a digital platform designed to facilitate the effective reporting of such incidents.

Mission Vatsalya- Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a centrally sponsored Scheme namely "Mission Vatsalya in all State and Union Territory on pre-defined cost sharing basis between the central and the State Governments to deliver various services for children in difficult circumstances.

The Scheme provides institutional care and non-institutional care. Child Care Institutions (CCIs) established under the Mission Vatsalya scheme provide Inter-alia, age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, health care, counselling etc. Under non-institutional care service, support is provided through sponsorship, Foster Care, Adoption and After care.

The funds are shared between the central and State in the ratio of 60:40 for all States and UTs with legislature except the North-Eastern states and Hilly States- Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and UT of Jammu & Kashmir, where the cost sharing is in the ratio of 90:10. In Union Territories without legislature, 100% cost is borne by the Central Government.

The Scheme also provides for emergency outreach services namely Child Helpline 1098 (24x7x365) for children in difficult circumstances which is integrated with Emergency Response Support System, 112 (ERSS-112) Helpline of Ministry of Home Affairs.

Besides this, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights at National level and State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights at State level are authorised to monitor the implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act (JJ Act).
