

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3678
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2018

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

3678. SHRI B. SRIRAMULU:
SHRIMATI ANJU BALA:
SHRI TEJ PRATAP SINGH YADAV:

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

- (a) whether the National Commission for Women (NCW) has completed 25 years of its establishment and if so, the details thereof including achievements made and challenges faced along with the steps taken to improve its working;
- (b) whether the Government has set up Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) to provide credit to women, if so, the details of schemes and their performances during the last three years;
- (c) whether large amount of funds remain unutilised under the RMK and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has reviewed the functioning of various autonomous bodies/subordinate offices under the Ministry and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government for improving their working?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)

- (a) Yes Madam. During the period the Commission has taken a series of steps to improve the socio-economic status of women and also for their empowerment. The details are at **Annexure-I**.
- (b) The Government of India has set up "Rashtriya Mahila Kosh" (National Credit Fund for Women) during 1993 to provide micro-credit to Intermediary Micro-financing

Organisation (IMOs) like NGOs for on-lending to poor women beneficiaries at concessional rate of interest. The details of loan disbursed by RMK during last three years is placed at Annexure-II.

- (c) RMK has received a corpus of Rs.100 crores from Government of India and the same was used for its loaning activities and operational surplus funds are invested. RMK utilised the corpus and cumulatively it has disbursed Rs.303.75 crore till date. Surplus funds of Rs.210.43 crore as on 31.03.2017 available with RMK were invested in nationalised banks for future loaning and other activities.
- (d) & (e) The functioning of various autonomous bodies/ subordinate offices under the Ministry are reviewed from time to time. In respect of RMK, the loan guidelines has been revised for improving its working and ensuring transparency in its lending activities. An Outreach Committee has been constituted for expanding the network of RMK along with its Capacity Building as on 22nd Dec, 2017. RMK has been brought under DBT for ensuring its funds reaches the genuine women beneficiaries.

The details of steps taken by the Commission to improve the socio-economic status of women and empowering them are as below:

- (i) Investigated and examined matters relating to the safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws.
- (ii) Undertaken Research Studies and conducted seminars/ workshops/conferences both in house and through various Universities/Colleges/NGOs on women related issues, so that the underutilized potential of the women force could be nurtured for fostering sustainable development.
- (iii) NCW has been organizing national level competitions for students of colleges and universities and others on women related laws and Legal Awareness Programme.
- (iv) NCW has been coordinating activities relating to combating acid attacks. NCW has developed an online platform for monitoring the progress of investigation, payment of interim or regular compensation, present status of court cases, etc.
- (v) The Commission has undertaken an extensive revision of the proforma for inspection of jails in the country. The revised proforma has been shared with all DGs of Prisons, Incharge of Prisons and also placed in public domain. The Proforma includes details of all facilities including the physical infrastructure, human resources, medical facilities, provision for safety/security of inmates, availability of power, availability of open space, sleeping arrangements, conditions of sanitation and hygiene, availability of kitchen garden/kitchen facilities, toilets, provision for imparting skill development training, yoga, meditation, availability of library and recreation rooms as also indoor sports facilities. It also provides for collecting information in respect of the cases for which women have been kept in the custodial homes, their status as under-trials or convicts and the nature of offence, their educational profile, medical conditions, if any, and engagement with civil society organisations/NGOs, etc.. The Commission inspects various prisons in which representatives of the State Legal Services Authority/District Legal Services Authority, NGOs, State Commission for Women also participate. The findings of the inspection are shared with the concerned authorities and are utilised for improving the condition of Jails as also facilities available in Jails housing women inmates.
- (vi) As large number of complaints received by the Commission concerning harassment of women due to marriages with the Non-Resident Indians are addressed by liaising with the Ministry of External Affairs, High Commission of India abroad, etc.
- (vii) A large number of complaints received regarding deprivation of women and non-enforcement of women's rights and entitlements are processed and relief provided to the affected women.

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Annexure-II

The details of loan disbursed by RMK during last three years - State/UT-wise

2014-15

(Amount Rs. In lakh)

State	Amount Released
Bihar	25.00
J & K	35.00
Jharkhand	49.50
Karnataka	7.50
Rajasthan	10.00
Tamil Nadu	142.00
West Bengal	65.00
TOTAL	334.00

2015-16*- Nil**2016-17***

(Amount Rs. In lakh)

State	Amount Released
West Bengal	55.00
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TOTAL	55.00

* During the above period, Loan guidelines of RMK were under revision.