

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO 126
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2023

REHABILITATION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS

126. SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY
SHRI Y. S. AVINASH REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has decided to provide medical, financial and infrastructure support to victims in cases where the sexual assault results in pregnancies and would operate under the aegis of the Nirbhaya Fund and has also allocated amount therefor;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has additionally leveraged the administrative structure of Mission Vatsalya in collaboration with State Governments and Child Care Institutions (CCIs) to actualise this support to minor victims and if so, the details thereof and progress made thereunder;
- (d) whether the scheme aims to provide integrated support to girl child victims who have mental health concerns, which are further aggravated when they are disowned/abandoned or are orphans, under one roof to facilitate immediate, emergency and non-emergency access to a range of services; and
- (e) if so, the details and the present status thereof in Telangana?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 126 for answer on 28.07.2023 raised by SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY and SHRI Y. S. AVINASH REDDY regarding Rehabilitation of Sexual Assault Victims

(a) to (e) The Government of India has enacted the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 to provide safeguards for children against sexual abuse. The Act defines a child as any person below the age of 18 years. The POCSO Act, 2012 provides for establishment of Special Courts for the purpose of ensuring speedy trial. The Act was amended in 2019 to introduce more stringent punishment including death penalty for committing sexual crimes on children, with a view to deter the perpetrators & prevent such crimes against children.

The Government of India has also notified the POCSO Rules, 2020. Rule-9 of the POCSO Rules provides that the Special Court may, in appropriate cases, on its own or on an application filed by or on behalf of the child, pass an order for interim compensation to meet the needs of the child for relief or rehabilitation at any stage after registration of the First Information Report (FIR). Such interim compensation paid to the child shall be adjusted against the final compensation, if any.

Further, the POCSO Rules also provide that for special relief, if any, to be provided for contingencies such as food, clothes, transport and other essential needs, Child Welfare Committee (CWC) may recommend immediate payment of such amount as it may assess to be required at that stage, to any of the following:

- i. the DLSA under Section 357A; or;
- ii. the DCPU, out of such funds placed at their disposal by state or;
- iii. funds maintained under section 105 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (2 of 2016);

Such immediate payment is made within a week of receipt of recommendation from the CWC.

The Ministry is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme namely Mission Vatsalya Scheme (erstwhile Child Protection Services (CPS) Scheme) under which support is provided to State and UT Governments for delivering services for children in difficult circumstances including minor victims universally across the country. The Child Care Institutions (CCIs) established under the scheme support inter-alia age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, health care, counselling etc. and covers both rural and urban children. Further, the Ministry regularly engages with all State/UTs and from time to time has shared various advisories and guidelines for continued and uninterrupted delivery of services and also for effective implementation of the scheme. 57 CCIs for Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) children are supported in State of Telangana as on 31.03.2023 under the Scheme.

Besides above provisions of POCSO Act, 2012 and POCSO Rules, 2020, the Empowered Committee constituted under the Framework of Nirbhaya Fund also approved the Scheme for critical care and support for accessing justice to rape/gang-rape survivors and minor girls who get pregnant at the total outlay of Rs. 74.10 crores and to place funds at the disposal of each DM/DC of Districts of the country for the purpose of providing shelter, food & daily needs, safe transportation for attending court hearings and legal aid to the minor girls who have been abandoned by the family due to forced pregnancy either due to rape/ gang rape or due to any other reasons and have no other means to support themselves.

The details and the present status of projects undertaken under Nirbhaya Fund in the State of Telangana is given in **Annexure-I**.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 126 for answer on 28.07.2023 regarding 'Utilization of Nirbhaya Fund in Telangana'

Sl. No.	Projects	Implemented by	Approved	Current Status
1	Emergency Response Support system (ERSS)	Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)	Yes	Functional
2	Creation of Central Victim Compensation Fund (CVCF)	MHA	Yes	Financial assistance as one time grant released by MHA
3	Cyber Crime Prevention against Women & Children (CCPWC)	MHA	Yes	1440 personnel trained Rs. 4.34 crore released
4	Setting up and strengthening Anti-Human Trafficking Units in all districts of States & UTs.	MHA	31	30
5	Setting up/ strengthening Women Help Desks (WHDs) in Police Stations in all States & UTs in all Police Stations).	MHA	Yes	650 WHDs set up
6	Proposal for procurement of Forensic Kits for sexual Assault cases	MHA	Yes	415 Kits distributed
7	Proposal for training of Investigation Officers (IOs)/ Prosecution Officers (POs) through Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) for three years	MHA	Yes	Yes
8	Setting up Fast Track Special Courts to dispose off cases pending trial under Rape & POCSO Act	DOJ	36	34
9	One Stop Centre (OSC)	Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD)	36	33
10	Universalisation of Women Helpline (WHL)	MWCD	Yes	Functional
11	Safe City Proposal for 8 Cities including Hyderabad	MHA	Yes	Rs.160.97 cr. Released
