

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 328
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2023

PRADHAN MANTRI MATRU VANDANA YOJANA

328. DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA

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

- (a) the present status of implementation of Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY);
- (b) whether the long and tedious documentation has rendered single women and young brides out of its purview, if so, the details thereof and the corrective actions taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the scheme has seen a paltry increase in funds in the budget despite demands for higher allocation and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other steps taken by the Government for the welfare of women in the country?

ANSWER

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

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

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 328 for answer on 11.08.2023 raised by Dr. DNV Senthilkumar S. and Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma regarding Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana

(a) to (d) Under Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), more than 3.36 crore beneficiaries have been enrolled, since inception of the Scheme in 2017-18 and till 24.07.2023. Further, maternity benefits of more than 13,788 crores (includes both Central and State share) have been disbursed to more than 3.06 crore beneficiaries during the aforesaid period.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has developed a new portal for registration of beneficiaries under PMMVY in accordance with Mission Shakti guidelines. The process of registration of beneficiaries by filling physical forms has been dispensed off. The Anganwadi Worker or Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) now fills forms on behalf of the beneficiary on new PMMVY portal. Provision of self registration of beneficiary has also been made on new PMMVY portal so that a beneficiary or an individual on behalf of the beneficiary can register an eligible beneficiary on new PMMVY portal. The mandatory condition of providing husband's Aadhaar has also been removed. This enables single mothers to enrol themselves under PMMVY.

Sufficient budgetary provisions have been made under PMMVY. The Budget Estimates (BE) for the year 2023-24 under PMMVY is ₹2067.86 Crore.

The Government gives utmost priority to the safety, security and empowerment of women. The Government has adopted multi-pronged approach to address the issue of women on a life-cycle continuum basis for their educational, social, economic and political empowerment so that they become equal partners in fast paced and sustainable national development.

In the past few years, a number of initiatives have been taken for holistic development and empowerment of women. The Government of India implements various schemes/ programmes for welfare of women/girls in which community participation plays an important role. Under National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), nearly 9.0 crore women are connected with around 83 lakh women's self-help groups that are transforming rural socio-economic landscape in several innovative and socially and ecologically responsible ways, also availing governmental support including through collateral free loans. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA) mandates that at least one third of the jobs generated under the scheme (MGNREGS) should be given to women.

National Agriculture Market or e-NAM, an online trading platform for agricultural commodities is helping women overcome or compensate the barriers they face in accessing markets. National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is playing a significant role to uplift women cooperatives as large number of women are engaged and involved in cooperatives dealing with activities related to food grain processing, plantation crops, oilseeds processing, fisheries, dairy & livestock, spinning mills, handloom and power loom weaving, Integrated Cooperative Development Projects, etc. Other schemes include Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP), Samagra Shiksha, Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojna, Swachchh Vidyalaya

Mission, Swachchh Bharat Mission, etc. In order to enhance the employability of female workers, the Government is providing training to them through a network of Women Industrial Training institutes, National Vocational Training Institutes and Regional Vocational Training Institutes. To ensure economic independence of women through skill development and vocational training, the Government has also introduced Skill India Mission.

The Anganwadi Services under Mission Poshan 2.0 is a universal scheme under which pregnant women and lactating mothers are eligible for the services including the Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP).

Construction of over 11 crore toilets under 'Swachchh Bharat Mission', clean cooking gas connections to over 9.50 crore women below poverty line under 'Ujjawala Yojana' and connecting over 12.60 crores out of 19.43 crores rural household with tap drinking water connections under 'Jal Jeevan Mission' have transformed the lives of women by reducing the drudgery and care burden. Prime Minister's Rural Digital Literacy Campaign (Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Sakasharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) that seeks to make 6 crore persons digitally literate, by covering one member from every eligible household. Over 53% of the beneficiaries under PMGDISHA are women.

Through the 73rd amendment to the Constitution of 1/3rd seats in the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) have been reserved for women. However, today there are more than 14.50 lakh Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) in PRIs, which is approximately 46% of the total elected representatives. The Government is providing training to the EWRs from time to time to build on their capacity.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development implements 'Mission Shakti', an Integrated Women Empowerment Programme, as Umbrella Scheme for the Safety, Security and Empowerment of Women. The 'Mission Shakti' has two sub-schemes namely "Sambal" for safety and security of women and "Samarthya" for empowerment of women. Under 'Samarthya' sub- scheme, a new component i.e. Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW) has been included with the 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. The support under the HEW provides for guiding, linking and hand holding women to various institutional and schematic set ups for their empowerment and development including access to healthcare, quality education, career and vocational counseling/ training, financial inclusion, entrepreneurship, backward and forward linkages, health and safety for workers, social security and digital literacy at districts/ Blocks/ Gram Panchayats level across the country.
