

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1442
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2023

IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHEMES UNDER NIRBHAYA FUND

1442. SHRI SUBBARAYAN K.:

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

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a study conducted by Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy on the effect of the Nirbhaya Fund set up by the Government revealing that the distribution and utilization of the fund has not been up to the mark;
- (b) if so, the details of the funds raised so far, the funds allocated for various projects for safety of women and the actual utilization of funds by various sectors, State-wise; and
- (c) the action taken for the effective implementation of the various projects launched under this fund?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The Government of India had set up a dedicated fund called 'Nirbhaya Fund for implementation of initiatives aimed at enhancing safety and security of women in the country. An amount of Rs.7212.85 Cr. has been provided under the Nirbhaya Fund till the current financial year and an amount of Rs. 4923 cr.has been released for the approved projects. Under the Nirbhaya Fund a total of 42 projects have been appraised by the EC.Out of these, 12 projects have been completed.

While some projects are fully funded by the Central Government, most projects have both central and state shares and are implemented through State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations for which Central Government releases funds to States/ UTs as per prescribed fund sharing pattern. Release of fund to the state governments /UT's depend upon various factors such as following up of prescribed financial norms under GFR(General Financial Rules), and submission of utilisation certificates/Statement of Expenditure etc by the state governments/UT administrations. Further, some projects have recurring components and take long time to complete.

(c) Subsequent to the appraisal of the projects by the Empowered Committee of the Nirbhaya Fund, concerned Ministries obtain the approval of the CFA(competent financial authority) and get the fund sanctioned/allocated in their budget, and release to the state governments/UT administration/implementing agencies. The Ministries monitor the implementation of their projects regularly. However, Ministry of Women and Child Development being the Nodal Ministry also monitors the implementation of projects under Nirbhaya Fund through the Empowered Committee, which meets on a regular basis and reviews the status of implementation of projects, in conjunction with the concerned Ministries/ Departments. Mid-way course corrections are suggested wherever required. The Empowered Committee has met 4 times in 2020-21, 5 times in 2021-22 and 4 times in 2022-23. Meeting of the EC was last held on 24th July, 2023.
