

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 398
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2023

FUNDS TO ONE STOP CENTRE

398. DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJI BHAI SOLANKI:

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

- (a) the details of funds allocated for the One Stop Centres under the Nirbhaya Fund;
- (b) the number of One Stop Centres that have been established;
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to strengthen their functioning and reach out to more survivors of violence;
- (d) the funds allocated for the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme and its utilization to empower girls and promote gender equality;
- (e) the number of districts that have been covered under this scheme; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to address gender-based violence and discrimination?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Ministry has been implementing the component of One Stop Centre (OSC) of Mission Shakti under Nirbhaya Fund since 1st April, 2015 with aim to provide a range of integrated services under one roof to women affected by violence and in distress. These services include Police facilitation, medical aid, providing legal aid and legal counselling, psycho-social counselling and temporary shelter. So far, a total of 801 One Stop Centres have been approved in all 36 States/UTs, out of which 733 OSCs are functional. Since its launch, a total of Rs.798.81 crore has been allocated/ released to States / Union Territories / Districts for implementation of the scheme under Nirbhaya Fund.

The Government, from time to time, conducts capacity building programme for the functionaries of OSCs through various institutions like National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) etc. Recently, the Government has engaged the services of National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) for providing basic and advanced training under the project named 'Stree Manoraksha' to the staff of One Stop Centres (OSC) across the country on handling psycho-social and mental health care needs of women facing violence and in distress.

(d) to (f): The Ministry also implements the component of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) since 2015 with an aim to address declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of empowerment of girls and women over a life cycle continuum. The objective of the scheme is to prevent gender biased sex selective elimination, to ensure survival and protection of the girl child and to ensure education and participation of the girl child. The key elements of the scheme include nation-wide media and advocacy campaign and multi-sectoral intervention in selected districts. So far, a total of Rs.1158.00 crore has been released to States / Union Territories / Districts for implementation of the scheme, out of which a total of Rs. 831.56 crore has been reported as utilised. All districts of the country have been covered under BBBP during the FY 2022-23.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including investigation and prosecution of crime against women and children rests primarily with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws.

The Constitution of India guarantees the right to equality and also provides for positive interventions by the State to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and to ensure their holistic empowerment. Keeping in mind the vision articulated in Constitutional provisions, there has been enactment of various legislations such as the Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 which addresses the issue of gender inequality, discrimination and violence faced by women.

In addition, Government of India has introduced various schemes and projects including One Stop Centres (OSCs), Women Helplines (WHL) running on toll free telephonic short code 181, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP), Swadhar Greh for women facing difficult circumstances or destitution, Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) which is a pan-India single number (112)/ mobile app based system for emergency response, safe city projects in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai), training and skill development programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers, distribution of Sexual Assault Evidence Collection (SAEC) Kits to States/ UTs; establishment of State of Art DNA Laboratory at CFSL, Chandigarh; assistance to States / UTs to strengthen Forensic Science Laboratories; setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) Courts for speedy disposal of cases of rape and cases under POCSO Act; cyber-crime reporting portal; setting up/ strengthening of Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) in all districts of the country; setting up / strengthening of Women Help Desks (WHDs) at Police Stations etc to ensure safety of women and girls across the country. The Government has also put in place Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences, an online analytic tool for tracking and monitoring of investigation. A National Database of Sexual Offenders (NDSO) has also been created.
