

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.76
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2024

FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRES

76. SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE

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

- (a) whether the Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) is implementing welfare programmes for women and children through Voluntary Organizations in the country especially in Maharashtra, district-wise, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the CSWB is operating Family Counselling Centres to provide counselling to women and children in distress, if so, the details thereof in Maharashtra, district-wise;
- (c) whether CSWB organises various welfare activities and programmes for women and children, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the amount of funds sanctioned for it during the last three years;
- (e) whether the Government has reviewed the functioning of the CSWB, if so, the details thereof, and
- (f) the other steps being taken by the Government to improve the working of the CSWB ?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) The Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) was set up by a Resolution of Government of India on 12th August 1953 to promote social welfare activities and implement welfare programmes for women and children through voluntary organizations. The State Social Welfare Boards were set up in all States and Union Territories to work together with Central Social Welfare Board as well as State Governments for implementing programmes of the Board across the country. The Board was functioning as an interface between government and the voluntary sector for more than six decades having a country-wide infrastructure to promote social welfare activities, respond to changing needs of society by developing new programmes, conducting pieces of training, implementation and monitoring of the programmes/schemes of the government being implemented by the voluntary organizations.

The Scheme of Family Counselling Centre (FCC) was introduced by Central Social Welfare Board in 1983. The centres provide counselling, referral and rehabilitative services to the women & children, who are victims of atrocities, family maladjustments

and social ostracism and also provide crisis interventions and trauma counselling in case of natural and man-made disasters. The centres also create awareness and mobilize public opinion on social issues affecting status of women. The FCCs work in close collaboration with the local administration, police, courts, free legal aid cells, medical and psychiatric institutions, vocational training centres, Swadhar Greh, One Stop Centres etc.

There are 54 number of Family Counselling Centres(FCCs) in the State of Maharashtra.

The Government has recently taken a policy decision to link the existing FCCs with the One Stop Centres(OSCs) and funding to the FCCs from the OSC Budget Head.

(d) Details of amount sanctioned during the last three years to the CSWB for organising various welfare activities and programmes are as under:

Year	Amount of funds sanctioned (in lakhs)
2020-21	1764.72
2021-22	1697.4
2022-23	1564.93

(e) & (f) The Expenditure Finance Committee(EFC), set up in 2014 under the chairpersonship of Dr. Bimal Jalan to inter alia recommend ways to rationalise Government expenditure, had recommend a comprehensive review of all autonomous bodies to rationalise their roles, their internal financial dynamics and dependence on the budgetary resources so that efficient and effective use of public money can be ensured. Further, NITI Aayog set up a Committee in 2017 under Shri Ratan P. Watal to conduct an in-depth review of autonomous bodies.

The Committee observed that activities carried out by the Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) do not justify having a separate Section 25 company as the support to SHGs is being provided more than adequately by Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural Livelihoods Mission(DAY-NRLM) of Department of Rural Development and skill training can be better provided by Schemes under Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. The Committee has, therefore, recommended that the CSWB may be closed down.

The CSWB has since been closed and all operations of Board have already ceased to exist. The staff of CSWB, who opted for voluntary retirement under Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme(SVRS), have been given retirement with amount entitled under SVRS and gratuity, leave encashment and pension as per service conditions. The remaining employees, who did not opt for voluntary retirement under SVRS, have been deployed on deemed deputation in National Institute of Public Cooperation & Child Development(NIPCCD), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Women & Child Development against the vacancies available therein.
