

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.2219
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.09.2020

JOB LOSS FOR WOMEN

2219. SHRI RITESH PANDEY:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to take any steps aimed at creating gender parity in unpaid household work which falls disproportionately on women in both rural and urban households, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that the pandemic has led to a disproportionate number of job losses for women;
- (d) if so, the steps taken or planned to help women get back to work; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) : Government gives utmost priority to ensuring gender parity in all spheres of life and has taken several steps to ensure that women does not face any gender based discrimination. Some of the steps taken by the Government in this directions and also to facilitate women engaged in unpaid care work to engage in economic activities include providing free LPG Cylinders in the name of women for all BPL Households under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, safe piped drinking water for all households under Jal Jeevan Mission, ensuring electricity connections to all households under Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana - SAUBHAGYA, construction of individual household toilets under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), connecting villages under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) etc.

Further, schemes such as Anganwadi Services, National Creche Scheme and Working Women's Hostel etc. as well as enactment of 'The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013', 'Code on Wages' to provide equal remuneration and increasing maternity leave from 12 to 26 weeks have also been undertaken to promote women's participation in formal employment. Gender Budgeting has also been adopted as a tool for gender mainstreaming and putting a gender lens on various stages of planning, budgeting, implementation, impact assessment and revisiting of policy/programme objectives and allocations.

In the aftermath of COVID- 19 pandemic, Government has taken initiatives for creating jobs at local levels through Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), Aatmanirbhar Bharat & Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyan (PMGKRA). Aatmanirbhar Bharat is based on Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand to create jobs for the youth including women.

Under PMGKRA, Government has taken various initiatives to boost rural infrastructure & rural economy to provide local employment opportunities particularly to the migrant workers including women who have returned to their native places with a resource envelope of Rs.50,000 crore implemented in a mission mode campaign. Government has also launched PM SVANidhi Scheme to facilitate collateral free working capital loan upto Rs.10,000/- of one-year tenure, to approximately, 50 lakh street vendors including women, to resume their businesses.
