

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO \*290**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2021

**PRADHAN MANTRI MAHILA SHAKTI KENDRA SCHEME**

\*290. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:  
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme on cost sharing basis and if so, the details thereof and the challenges faced while implementing the scheme in the country including Maharashtra;
- (b) whether any assessment of the scheme has been made and if so, the outcome thereof and the corrective steps being taken to overcome the shortcomings noticed therein;
- (c) the States that are contributing their respective share of funds along with the steps taken by the Government to provide more funds under this scheme;
- (d) whether the State Governments including Maharashtra have sent proposals for setting up of more centres under the scheme in various districts ; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the proposals received and approved along with the funds released for Wardha and Amaravati districts of Maharashtra?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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**Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. \*290 for 17.12.2021 by Shri Ramdas C. Tadas, and Shrimati Bhavana Pundalikrao Gawali regarding 'Pradhan Mantri Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme'**

(a) to (c) : The Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK) Scheme was approved in November, 2017 as a centrally sponsored scheme to empower rural women through community participation. Under the scheme, capacity building of women was envisaged in not more than 50% of the blocks in aspirational districts to address livelihood needs of women. Besides, block level activities through college student volunteers were envisaged for a maximum of 8 blocks per aspirational district. The MSK scheme was also approved for 34 districts of Maharashtra including 4 aspirational districts.

The scheme is implemented through State Governments and UT Administrations with a cost sharing ratio of 60:40 between Centre and States except for North East & Special Category States where the funding ratio is 90:10. For Union Territories without legislature 100% central funding is provided. States contribute their respective shares of funds for implementation of the scheme before seeking releases of subsequent installments from Government of India under the scheme.

The challenges faced while implementing the scheme in the country including Maharashtra, include non-availability of college faculty members in certain blocks in aspirational districts and difficulties in engaging student volunteers. Other challenges in implementation of the scheme include delays in sanction of matching grants in States.

Task Forces are set up at National/ State/ District levels for monitoring and course correction. State Governments have been requested on different occasions to expedite approvals and release of State share of funds. Video conferences, meetings and visits have also been undertaken from time to time to review and expedite the implementation of the scheme.

Assessment/ evaluation of the Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme has been done by NITI Aayog. The main outcomes of that evaluation study included setting up of District Level Centres for Women in all districts, fresh identification of output indicators, online data repositories and MIS etc.

In view of the findings from evaluation study, the Ministry has started processes for closure of the Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK) Scheme in its present form and for launching a new and more comprehensive Umbrella Scheme for safety, security and empowerment of women under the name 'Mission Shakti'.

(d) & (e) : Under Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme, District Level Centres for Women (DLCWs) are approved for districts as per Census of India, 2011. Funds have been released for implementing Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme as per approved scheme guidelines, including for different districts of Maharashtra from time to time. These have included releases of Rs.1,44,63,000/- during the year 2018-19 and Rs.22,88,000/- during the year 2019-20 for Maharashtra including for Wardha and Amaravati Districts, for implementation of the MSK Scheme, including for setting up and running of District Level Centres for Women.

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