GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.928 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2022

EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN IN FILM INDUSTRY

928. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has noted that women are being exploited in cinema industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of Hema Committee report to study issues being faced by women in Film industry; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the measures being taken by the Government to empower and to ensure efficient grievance redressal mechanism of women in cinema industry?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) and (b): The Government of India gives highest importance to protection of women and girls and also takes steps to address the issue of their safety and security. The Government has enacted strong criminal laws like the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005; the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961; the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006; the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986; the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 and the Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987. The Government has also enacted

'the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 to provide safe environment at workplace for women, including women in film industry. The Act casts a mandatory obligation upon every employer, whether private or public sector, to create an environment which is free from sexual harassment and to constitute Internal Committee (IC) for receiving complaints related to sexual harassment.

The Government of India implements the schemes of One Stop Centre and Universalization of Women Helplines. The One Stop Centres (OSCs) aim to facilitate women including women in the film industry affected by violence with a range of integrated services under one roof such as Police facilitation, medical aid, providing legal aid and legal counselling, psycho-social counselling, temporary shelter, etc. Further, the Women Helpline (WHL) Scheme provides 24 hours emergency and non-emergency response to women, both in public and private spaces by linking them with appropriate authorities such as Police, One Stop Centre, Hospital, Legal Services, etc. WHL also supports women in distress with rescue van and counselling services in addition to providing information about women welfare schemes and programs across the country. Women can dial 181 short code to avail services from Women Helpline.

(c) & (d): No, Sir.
