

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2097
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2022

RASHTRIYA MAHILA KOSH

2097. SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE :
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE :
DR.AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR. S. :
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA :

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

- (a) whether the objectives for which Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) was established have been achieved, if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken in this regard;
- (b) the challenges faced by the Government while implementing RMK;
- (c) whether the Government has created awareness among women regarding RMK, if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has reviewed the functioning of RMK and if so, details thereof indicating deficiencies noticed therein;
- (e) whether steps have been taken for strengthening and restructuring RMK, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether a number of persons have not repaid the loan amount taken under different loan schemes of RMK, if so, the details thereof indicating number of loan defaulters during last three years and the efforts made or mechanism available with the Government to recover these loans?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f) Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) was set up by the Government of India in 1993 for extending concessional micro-finance loans to poor women through Intermediary Micro-Finance Organizations (IMOs) for livelihood activities, housing, micro-enterprises and family needs to bring about socio-economic upliftment of women. RMK extended collateral free concessional micro-finance loans to poor women through IMOs. Since its inception, RMK has sanctioned loans amounting to Rs.373.12 crore and disbursed Rs.315.13 crore covering 7,41,163 beneficiaries.

At the time RMK was setup, it was a prominent Government body working in the area of extending concessional micro-finance loans to poor women through IMOs. Over the period of time, substantial alternative credit facility mechanisms have become available to women entrepreneurs through various Government initiatives like Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojna and Stand Up India. In line with the recommendations of the Expert Management Commission set up by the Ministry of Finance and the report on Rationalisation of Government Bodies authored by the Principal Economic Adviser, Department of Economic Affairs, Government has decided to close down RMK to improve efficiency and utilize available resources optimally.

As per available records, 20 Intermediary Organizations (IMOs)/ Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) have defaulted in repayment of loan in the last three years.

Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) has been taking various steps for recovery of default loan amount which include issuance of show-cause notice, blacklisting, filing of civil suit cases, filing cases under Section 138 of N I Act, 1881, etc.
