

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1221  
ANSWERED ON 03/12/2024**

**NATIONAL CONCLAVE ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING  
1221. SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B:  
SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH:**

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any specific outcomes and recommendations have emerged from the National Conclave on Gender Mainstreaming hosted by the Ministry;**
- (b) whether the Government plans to implement the strategies discussed during the conclave to strengthen gender-responsive community institutions, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the capabilities of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Village Organizations (VOs) to better support women's empowerment;**
- (d) the extent to which it is likely to address the barriers to women's empowerment identified during the conclave, such as unpaid care work and wage gaps;**
- (e) the details of steps to ensure gender training to all NRLM mission staff, panchayat representatives and institutional stakeholders; and**
- (f) whether the Government has taken any steps to engage men, boys and youth in challenging traditional gender norms within rural communities, if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(DR. CHANDRA SEKHAR PEMMASANI)**

**(a) The National Conclave on Gender Mainstreaming was organized with the objectives of creating strong Gender Responsive community institutional mechanisms and to develop forward-looking strategies for forging Inter-Ministerial convergence for addressing gender inequalities. Specific**

**recommendations that have been carved out for gender mainstreaming include gender integration within the scheme of DeendayalAntyodayaYojana National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY NRLM), building strong interfaces with other government schemes, continuous capacity building on gender, and focused interventions at the village organization and cluster level federations on accessing various rights & entitlements and addressing other issues.**

**(b) Yes, the Government is fully aligned to strengthen the community institutions premised on the principles of gender equality through various training, experience sharing and hand holding activities.**

**(c) & (d) DAY NRLM is a scheme of the Government of India to alleviate poverty through institutions of poor women. The two pronged approach for supporting women empowerment include gender integration within DAY NRLM program and establishing functional institutional mechanisms. This includes Gender Point Person at Self Help Groups (SHGs), SakhiManch, Social Action Committee at Village Organization (VO) level, Gender Forum at Gram Panchayat level, Social Action Committee at Cluster level Federation (CLF) level and Gender Forum at block level. The adopted strategies for gender equality and women empowerment include capacity building, 2ensitization, awareness, advocacy towards social norms and convergence with line departments. The sensitization and capacity building programs around gender help women understand the concept of gender and several gender-related barriers including, unpaid care work and wage gaps. This continuous capacity building translates into better access to rights and entitlements and empowers them have agency and control on their income, asset, etc.**

**(e) The gender training is provided to cadres and staff of the program at the State, district and block level. They in turn train the members and office bearers of SHGs, VOs and CLFs on gender.**

**(f) Several pilot interventions have been taken in DAY NRLM to engage men and boys which include PariwarChoupal in Chhattisgarh and Peer group counseling in Jharkhand.**

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