GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3601 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2025

NIRBHAYA FUND UTILIZATION

3601. SHRI P C MOHAN:

- Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:
- (a) the details of the specific measures being implemented under the Nirbhaya Fund to enhance the safety of women using public transport in Bengaluru, including metro and BMTC buses;
- (b) whether the Government has allocated funds for gender-sensitization training for police personnel and public transport staff to better handle cases of harassment and violence, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether there is any mechanism to track and publicly report the expenditure and impact of the Nirbhaya Fund on women's safety initiatives in Bengaluru, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

(a) & (b): In order to ensure the safety and security of women and girls in public transport in Bengaluru, the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), Government of Karnataka is implementing a project under Nirbhaya Fund, which includes Women Lounges at important bus stations, Gender Sensitization and women safety protocol training for ground staff, Sarathi Squads/ Mobile Police Patrol Vehicles, Advocacy, advertisement and Awareness Campaign on Women's safety, Training women for Heavy passenger Vehicle (HPV) and Light Motor Vehicle (LMV) licenses, CCTV Surveillance cameras for 1000 buses, Mobile application to improve

functionalities on women safety and Passenger information Display in Bus Stops. As per the information provided by BMTC, 18 women lounges have been completed in BMTC bus terminals, a total of 27000 staff have been trained, web tool design and dash board work has been completed and pilot run deployed at 2 depots for testing of Gender Sensitisation Assessment Tool. Self defence training for 2773 women employees have been conducted, 25 patrol vehicles and 11 Light Motor Vehicles have been deployed, installation of 1213 Automatic Tracking Device (ATD). Panic Buttons and Mobile Network Video Recorder (mNVR) installed in 5000 vehicles. 2426 CCTVs and PIS display System- 5 have been done. The 'NAMMA BMTC' Mobile application with women safety feature has been developed and launched on 25th September 2023. 500 Passenger Information Display boards have been installed in bus stops and buses.

Under the Safe City Projects implemented in 8 Cities, Bengaluru city is also included. In Bengaluru Safe City project, in order to ensure safety of public places where women work and live, poles has been installed at 100 locations with camera feed from 8 locations received at Command Centre. Critical Care Response Unit has been setup in 8 leading Government Hospitals and 4 Mobile Forensic vans has been procured. Further, to ensure that the Police Stations are more women friendly and approachable, as they would be the first and single point of contact for any woman walking into a police station, 14658 Women Help Desks (WHDs) have been set up across the country, of which 13743 are headed by women police officers. Out of these, 1050 WHDs have been set up in Karnataka alone.

(c): An Empowered Committee (EC) of officers constituted under Framework for Nirbhaya Fund appraises and recommends the proposals for funding under Nirbhaya Fund. After appraisal by the EC, the Ministries/ Departments concerned obtain approval of their respective competent financial authorities to release funds out of their respective budgets and implement the approved projects/ schemes directly or through States/ UTs/ Implementing Agencies, State/ UT-wise. The EC also reviews the implementation of approved projects/ schemes in conjunction with the concerned Ministries/ Departments/ Implementing Agencies (IAs). In addition, the Ministries/ Departments/ IAs also monitor the implementation of projects/ schemes at their level.
