

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UN- STARRED QUESTION NO. 4798**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2025

**SAFETY OF WOMEN AT WORKPLACE**

+ 4798: SMT. LOVELY ANAND:

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

- (a) the details of the funds spent under Nirbhaya Fund for the safety of women till date;
- (b) the details of the present status of women helpline and One Stop Centres; and
- (c) the details of the steps being taken to ensure safety of women at workplaces?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): Under the Nirbhaya Fund, upto the current financial year 2024-25, an amount of Rs. 7712.85 Cr. has been provided and the total amount released and utilized out of Nirbhaya fund by the Ministries/ Departments/ Implementing Agencies (IAs) since inception is Rs 5,846.08 Crore, which is approximately 76% of the total allocation.

The schemes/ projects under Nirbhaya Fund address the core areas of safety and security of women be it related to prevention of crime or prosecution of offenders or providing institutional support to the women facing violence or those in distress. It includes One Stop Centres (OSC), Universalisation of Women Helplines (WHL), Emergency Response Support System (ERSS), Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC), Safe City Project in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai), establishment of State of Art DNA Laboratory at CFSL, Chandigarh, strengthening DNA analysis, cyber

forensic & related facilities in State Forensic Science Laboratories (SFSLs) in 30 States/ UTs, setting up and strengthening of Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) in all districts of the country and in border guarding forces, setting up/ strengthening Women Help Desks (WHDs) in Police Stations across all States & UTs, Training of Investigation Officers (IOs)/ Prosecution Officers (POs)/ Medical Officers (MOs) in forensic evidence collection and handling and distribution of Forensic Kits for Sexual Assault cases, Integrated Emergency Response Management System (IERMS) in Indian Railways, Video Surveillance System at Konkan Railway Stations, Tabs for Security of Women, Artificial Intelligence (AI) based Facial Recognition System (FRS) integrated with video surveillance systems across 7 major railway stations (Mumbai CST, Delhi, Howrah, Sealdah, Patna, Secunderabad and Chennai Central), Vehicle Tracking Platform and various other projects of State Transport departments and Fast Track Special Courts to dispose of cases pending trial under Rape & POCSO Act, etc.

(b): The Women Helpline (WHL) and One Stop Centre (OSC) are components of sub-scheme 'Sambal' under umbrella 'Mission Shakti' implemented by the Central Government during the Fifteenth Finance Commission period upto 2025-26. The 'Sambal' sub-scheme is 100% funded by the Central Government.

'The Women Helpline provides toll free 24x7x365 emergency and non-emergency services through telephonic short code 181 to women in distress by connecting them to appropriate authorities/ institutions and to those seeking support and information about schemes and programs for women across the country. Women Helpline (181) is functional across 35 States/UTs except West Bengal. Till 31.01.2025, around 2.10 crore calls have been received and 84.43 lakh women have been assisted under the scheme. Since inception in April 2015 till 17.03.2025, an amount of Rs. 105.10 Crore has been released by the Ministry of Women & Child Development to various States/ UTs. The Women Helpline (181) is now integrated with Emergency Response Support System (112). The ERSS is also integrated with the Child Helpline (1098). These three platforms provide seamless support and help to needy women and children. Further, WHL has been integrated with 418 One Stop Centres till date.

Popularly known as Sakhi, the One Stop Centres (OSCs) provide services in an integrated manner under one roof to women affected by violence or to those in

distress, both in private and public spaces. It facilitates immediate, emergency and non-emergency access to a range of services including Police Facilitation, Medical Aid, Psycho-social Counseling, Legal Aid and Counseling and Temporary Shelters. As on 25.03.2025, 894 OSCs have been approved and 812 are functional. Since inception, the OSCs have assisted over 10.80 lakh women. There is at least one OSC in each district of the country. Since inception till 17.03.2025, the Government has provided financial assistance to all the States/ UTs to the tune of Rs. 1079.68 Crore for operation and management of OSCs in the country.

(c): The Government of India has taken numerous steps for effective implementation of the 'Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act' (SH Act), 2013. The MWCD launched the SHe-Box portal duly encompassing various provisions of 'the SH Act, 2013. This portal is an initiative of the Ministry to provide a publicly available centralised repository of information related to Internal Committees (ICs) and Local Committees (LCs) formed across the country, whether in government or private sector. It also provides a common platform to file complaints and track the status of such complaints.

The portal includes a feature where complaints registered on it get automatically forwarded to the IC/ LC of the workplaces concerned registered on the portal. The portal provides for designating a nodal officer for every workplace who is required to ensure updation of data/ information on a regular basis for real time monitoring of complaints.

For effective implementation of the Act, the portal has been designed to include IC details of all workplaces of all sectors on the She-box portal across the country, whether, Central or State Government departments, Private sector entities or Professional Bodies including all educational and financial institutions, hospitals etc. to facilitate the lodging of complaint of aggrieved woman.

In addition to SHe-Box portal, following measures have been taken by Government towards the prevention of sexual harassment at workplace since the enactment of the said Act-

- i. MWCD being the Nodal Ministry for SH Act observes the Enactment day i.e. 9th December of the SH Act every year and issues letters/ advisories to all sectors (including Central Government/ State Government/ Private Bodies/ Trade organization/ Educational Institutions/ and other organizations) for effective implementation of the Act and also to constitute IC/ LC immediately.
- ii. The Ministry has also issued a Handbook on SH Act, 2013. The Handbook provides information about the Act in an easy-to-use practical manner. The soft copy of the Handbook has been uploaded on the Ministry's website and SHE-Box portal for the purposes of mass dissemination and it has also been sent to Ministers and officials concerned of various Ministries/ Departments, State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.
- iii. The Ministry has prepared a training module in collaboration with Institute of Secretariat Training and Management (ISTM) for training and Gender Sensitization programmes of personnel.
- iv. Ministry also launched a 'Guide on Gender-Inclusive Communication on 28th November 2023 to help removing gender stereotypes.
- v. The Ministry also offers regular training sessions to key stakeholders, including officers from Central and State/ UT Governments, through a hybrid mode. These sessions are conducted with the support of its autonomous bodies, such as the National Commission for Women (NCW) and the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD).
- vi. The Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India has also issued advisories time to time to all the Central Ministries/ Departments to complete the inquiry in a time bound manner and to include the information related to number of cases filed/ disposed under the SH Act in their annual report.
- vii. Minister of Women and Child Development has also requested Minister for Corporate Affairs vide letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 to make constitution of the Internal Committee (IC) a mandatory disclosure under the Companies Act, 2013. The Ministry of Corporate Affairs vide its order dated 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 has accepted request of Ministry of Women & Child Development to amend the Company (Account) Rules, 2014 thereby making the disclosure regarding the implementation of SH Act mandatory in the Director's Report.

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