

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2788
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2015

CONVERGENCE MODEL INTERVENTION PROJECT

2788. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry in consultation with the other Ministries is promoting the convergence model intervention project for socio-economic development of underprivileged women in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details of such schemes;
- (c) whether the role of women leadership in facilitating such schemes has taken into account and if so, the details thereof along with the specific tasks carried out through such schemes during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) the successful stories, if any, noticed by the Government in recent time; and
- (e) the achievements made in this regard so far?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)**

(a) & (b): The Joint convergence guidelines were issued for convergence of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) with the schemes of Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Textile and Ministry of Railway and other schemes of this Ministry including PradhanMantri Gram SadakYojana, National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) Indira AwaasYojana etc. The objective of these programmes is to bring about overall improvement in the quality of life of the people in rural areas including women through employment generation, development of rural infrastructure and provision of other basic amenities. The convergence between MGNREGS and NRLM is resulting in increased participation of women in economic activities. NRLM works towards creating robust institutional platforms of the rural poor, especially women, in the form of Self Help groups (SHGs) and their federations, to improve their access to financial services, and thereby build their sustainable livelihoods.

(c) to (e): Yes, Madam. NRLM programme of the Government mainly focuses on women beneficiaries to achieve their social and economic empowerment. It aims at building strong and sustainable grass root institutions of rural poor women and enabling them to access their own social networks, resources and knowledge for gainful self-employment and skilled wage employment opportunities and thereby achieve appreciable improvement in their livelihoods on the sustainable basis. Universal social mobilization through formation of Self Help Groups (SHGs) under NRLM and federating these groups at village and higher levels ensures that at least one woman member from each identified rural poor household is brought under the SHG network in a time bound manner. Special emphasis is on mobilizing women from poorest of poor and most vulnerable communities such as manual scavengers, victims of human trafficking, particularly vulnerable Tribal Groups, persons with disabilities and bonded labour.

The NRLM programme seeks to cover 8-10 crore rural poor and vulnerable household through formation and strengthening of 70-90 lakh SHGs, close to 600,000 village level federations and around 24,000 cluster level federation. NRLM will cover all the 248076 Gram Panchayats, 6758 block and 648 districts in 29 States and 5 UTs. This will be done in a phased manner by the year 2024-25. However, under the scheme 3,91,12,816 Households have been mobilized and 33,78,369 SHGs have been promoted.
