

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:252
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2003
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that even after 12 years, eight states and six Union Territories have yet to constitute Women's Commission;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to amend the National Commission for Women Act to make it mandatory for the States to constitute Women Commission;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which such law is likely to be enacted;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the States which have constituted such Commissions have not been provided with sufficient funds and infrastructural facilities;
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure that each State/Union Territory constitutes such commission and they function smoothly?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e),(f)&(g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a),(b),(c),(d),(e),(f) & (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 252 6.8.2003 BY SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI REGARDING NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN.

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e),(f) & (g) The setting up of State women commissions comes within the purview of the State Governments. The responsibility in respect of funding of the women commissions and providing infrastructural facilities for them is also that of the respective State Governments. As a result of continuous persuasion by the Central Government, all the States except the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Nagaland and Uttaranchal have constituted state level women commissions. The Government of Meghalaya has informed that as the women enjoy equal and respectable status in the society, it does not consider it necessary to constitute state women commission.

In respect of the Union Territories, Delhi and Pondicherry have set up women commissions. Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli have stated that given the small size of the UT an independent commission would not be justified.

It is expected that the process of persuasion will make the remaining few states also to set up women commissions. It is also expected that the States and Union Territories will provide the women commissions with funds considered fit for being utilized for the purposes of the commissions.