

### Condition of Women

3778. SHRI VITHAL TUPE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are taking certain specific steps to ameliorate the condition of the women; and
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken in this regard alongwith the steps that would be taken in future?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has launched specific programmes for women to promote their employment and for income generation, for micro-credit development, awareness generation and for providing welfare and support services. The main features of the major schemes implemented by Department of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Human Resource Development are in the attached statement. In addition, Government has also reserved a certain percentage of benefits for women under Schemes like Integrated Rural Development Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Indira Awaas Yojana etc. The Government continuously strives to provide support to the efforts for betterment and development of women through various steps such as policy initiatives, formulation of Women's Component Plan, effective coordination, monitoring of the sectoral programmes for women, creation of institutional mechanisms for protection of women's rights etc.

#### Statement

*Main features of the major schemes implemented by the Department of Women & Child Development*

#### 1. Schemes for gainful employment and sustainable income generation:

- a. Support to Training & Employment Programme for Women (STEP)—to upgrade the skills of poor & assetless women in traditional sectors of dairying, fisheries, handlooms etc.
- b. Training-cum-Employment-cum-Production Centres (Women's Economic Programme)—to train women in non-traditional trades such as electronics, electricals, computer programming, beauty culture, office management etc.
- c. Socio Economic Programme (SEP)—to provide support to women to set up income generating projects such as tiny industrial units, dairy units, piggery, sheep & goat rearing etc.
- d. Condensed Courses of Education & Vocational Training (CCE&VT)—to conduct courses for women/girls for passing Primary, Middle, and Matric level examinations and to conduct skill development activities for different trades leading to wage/self employment.
- e. Vocational Training Programmes for Women—to provide a wide range to training opportunities for women in vocational Training Institutes.

#### 2. Schemes designed to meet the credit needs of women and for their empowerment:

- a. Rashtriya Mahila Kosh—to meet the credit needs of poor women particularly in the informal sector.
- b. Mahila Samridhi Yojana—for promoting thrift among rural women.
- c. State Women Development Corporations—to facilitate flow of inputs like credit to women to set up enterprises, co-operatives and other organisations. The Scheme has been transferred to the State Sector w.e.f. 1-4-92.
- d. Indira Mahila Yojana—to organise women to build their capacity for accessing benefits and opportunities available under various programmes in public, private and governmental sector.

#### 3. Schemes for awareness generation:

- a. Awareness Generation Projects for Rural & Poor Women—to generate awareness among rural and poor women about their status in the family and in the Society.
- b. Education Work for Prevention of Atrocities on Women—to assist academic institutions and voluntary organisations to conduct Legal literacy camps, para legal workers' training, research, publicity and propaganda work on atrocities on women.

#### 4. Welfare & support services:

- a. Hostels for Working Women—to provide financial assistance to NGOs to construct hostels for working women.
- b. Creches for Working/Ailing Mother's Children—to provide day care facilities for children of working/ailing mothers.
- c. Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)—to improve the nutritional, health and educational status of children in the age group of 0-6 years, expectant and nursing mothers and adolescent girls.
- d. Short Stay Homes—to provide temporary shelter and rehabilitation to women who are in social and moral danger.
- e. Balika Samridhi Yojana—to raise the status of girl child under which a sum of Rs. 500/- is given to mothers on birth of a girl child in families below poverty line.

#### Indo-American Scientific Cooperation

3779. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a leading American Scientist and a member of the National Science Board in the US has expressed serious concern over the decline in the funding available for the joint scientific programmes between India and America;