

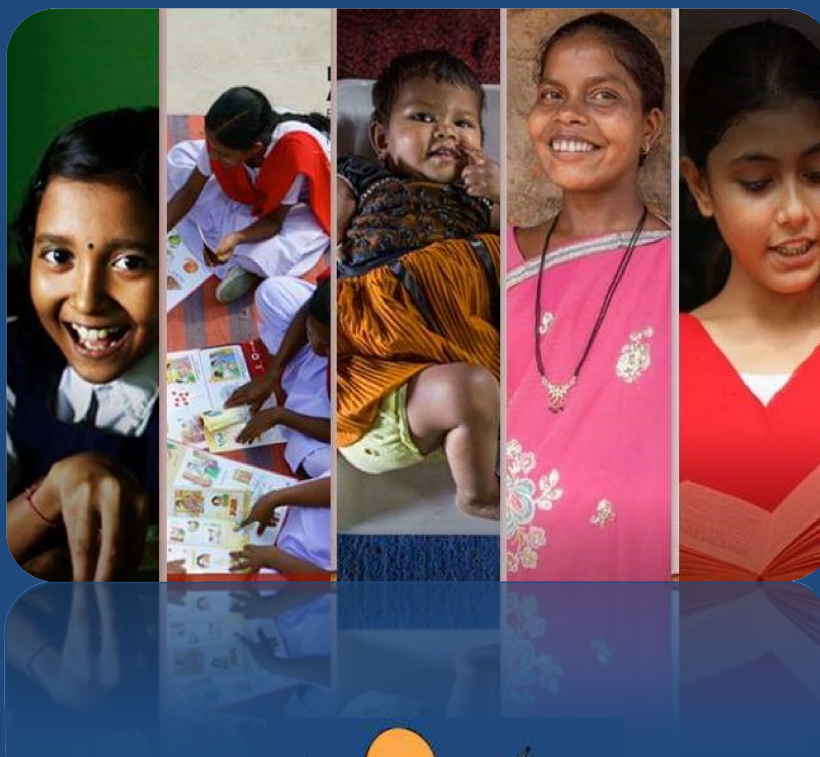


सत्यमेव जयते

Annual Report

(Abridged)

2018



नए समाज की ओर
Towards a new dawn

Ministry of Women and Child Development
Government of India



ANNUAL REPORT (ABRIDGED) 2018

MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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Introduction

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the apex body of Government of India for formulation and administration of policies, regulations and laws related to women and child development. It came into existence as a separate Ministry with effect from 30th January, 2006; earlier, it was the Department of Women and Child Development set up in the year 1985 under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The nodal responsibility of the Ministry is to advance the rights and concerns of women and children who together constitute 67.7% of the country's population, as per 2011 Census. The Ministry was constituted with the prime intention of addressing gaps in State action for women and children and for promoting inter-ministerial and inter-sectoral convergence to create gender equitable and child centered legislation, policies and programmes. Vision and Mission of the Ministry are as follows:

Vision

Empowered women living with dignity and contributing as equal partners in development in an environment free from violence and discrimination, and, well-nurtured children with full opportunities for growth and development in a safe and protective environment.

Mission - Women

Promoting social and economic empowerment of women through cross-cutting policies and programmes, mainstreaming gender concerns, creating awareness about their rights and facilitating institutional and legislative support for enabling them to realize their human rights and develop to their full potential.

Mission - Children

Ensuring development, care and protection of children through cross-cutting policies and programmes, spreading awareness about their rights and facilitating access to learning, nutrition, institutional and legislative support for enabling them to grow and develop to their full potential.

The concern of the makers of our Constitution for equality of women, on one side and for assuring the rights of children, promoting their well-being and ensuring a better future for them on the other, are enshrined in constitutional provisions. These provisions as subjects allocated to the Ministry are listed at Annexure-I.

Organisation

After the formation of 16th Lok Sabha, Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi has taken over the charge on 26th May 2014 as Cabinet Minister of the Ministry of Women and Child Development. Dr. Virendra Kumar has assumed the charge of Minister of State for Women and Child Development on 3rd September 2017. Shri Rakesh Srivastava took the charge of the Secretary of the Ministry with effect from the afternoon of 11th May, 2017. Secretary (WCD) is assisted by one Additional Secretary, one Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, six Joint Secretaries, an Economic Adviser and a Statistical Adviser.

Organizations under the aegis of the Ministry

The Ministry has three Autonomous Organizations viz. National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD), Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB), and Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) working under its aegis, besides three (3) Statutory Bodies namely, National Commission for Women (NCW) and National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA). NIPCCD and RMK are societies registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. CSWB is a charitable company registered under section 25 of the Indian Companies Act, 1956. These organizations are funded by the Government of India and they assist the Ministry in its functions including implementation of programmes/schemes. The Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) is an attached office of the Ministry.

The National Commission for Women (NCW) is a National apex statutory body set up in 1992 for protecting and safeguarding the rights of women. National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) was set up on 5th March, 2007 as envisaged in the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005. CARA is the Central Authority for regulating inter-country adoptions under Section 68 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

The total Plan outlay (B.E) of the Ministry for 2018-19 is Rs. 24700 crore. The revised total Plan outlay (R.E.) of the Ministry for 2018-19 is Rs. 24758.62 crore. The Ministry has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 17488.56 crore during 2018-19 (as on 07.01.2019). The details of scheme-wise Budget Estimate and Revised Estimate are given at Annexure II.

Child Development

Well being of children is essential for the country's development as they constitute to the future human resource of the country. A major part of the India's population—around 158 million comprise of children in the age of 0-6 years (2011 Census). The Ministry of Women and Child Development is administering various schemes for the welfare, development and protection of children. The details are provided below:

Anganwadi Services (Under Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services Scheme)

The Anganwadi Services Scheme is one of the flagship programmes of the Government of India and represents one of the world's largest and unique programmes for early childhood care and development. It is the foremost symbol of the country's commitment towards its children and nursing mothers; a response to the challenge of providing pre-school non-formal education on one hand and breaking the vicious cycle of malnutrition, morbidity, reduced learning capacity and mortality on the other. The beneficiaries under the Scheme are children in the age group of 0-6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

Objectives of the Scheme:

- to improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age-group 0-6 years;
- to lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child;
- to reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropout;
- to achieve effective co-ordination of policy and implementation amongst the various departments to promote child development; and
- to enhance the capability of the mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of the child through proper nutrition and health education.

The Anganwadi Services Scheme offers a package of six services, *viz.* Supplementary Nutrition, Pre-School Non-Formal Education, Nutrition and Health Education, Immunization, Health Check-Up and Referral Services. The last three services are related to health and are provided by Ministry/Department of Health and Family Welfare through NRHM & Health System.

Under the revised Anganwadi Services, keeping in view the Prime Minister's vision for Swachh Bharat, two new components— Construction of toilets in AWCs and

Provision of drinking water facilities in AWCs have also been introduced. Convergence is, one of the key features of the Anganwadi Services, enabling better governance in the delivery of the Scheme.

Under the revised Nutritional and Feeding norms (effective from February 2009) State Governments/UTs have been directed to provide 300 days of supplementary food to the beneficiaries in a year, which would entail giving more than one meal to the children from 3-6 years who come to AWCs. This includes morning snacks in the form of milk/banana/seasonal fruits followed by a hot cooked meal (HCM). For children below 3 years of age and pregnant and lactating mothers, age appropriate Take Home Rations (THRs) in the form of pre-mix/ready-to-eat food are provided. Besides, for severely underweight children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years, additional food items in the form of THR have been recommended.

The Government has promulgated the National Food Security Act, 2013. Sections - 4, 5, & 6 of the Act pertain to entitlements regarding nutritional support to pregnant and lactating mothers and children under the Anganwadi Services. Nutritional standards as per the schedule II of the Act are as follows:

S.No.	Categories	Types of meal	Calories (Kcal)	Protein (g)
1	Children (6 months to 3 years)	Take Home Ration	500	12-15
2	Children (3 to 6 years)	Morning Snacks and Hot Cooked Meal	500	12-15
3	Children (6 months to 6years) who are malnourished	Take Home Ration	800	20-25
4	Pregnant women and Lactating mothers	Take Home Ration	600	18-20

The number of operational AWCs/mini-AWCs increased from 13,04,611 in March, 2012 to 13,63,518 in September, 2018. Number of beneficiaries [Children (6 months to 6 years) and pregnant & lactating mothers] for supplementary nutrition reported 972.49 lakh in March, 2012 and 875.35 lakh in September, 2018. Number of beneficiaries [Children (3-6 years)] for pre-school education reported 358.22 lakh in March, 2012 and 319.66 lakh in September, 2018.

Financial Norms of Supplementary Nutrition under Anganwadi Services have been revised as under and would be effective from the date of notification issued by the respective States/UTs:

S. No.	Categories	Old Rates (In Rupees per day per beneficiary)	Revised Rates (In Rupees per day per beneficiary)
1	Children (6-72 months)	6.00	8.00
2	Pregnant women and lactating mothers	7.00	9.50
3	Severely Malnourished Children (6-72months)	9.00	12.00

The revised funding pattern (from 01.12.2017) under the Anganwadi Services (AS) is provided at the table below:

	AS(G)	Salary	Supplementary Nutrition
States/UTs with Legislature	60:40	25:75	50:50
NE/Himalayan States	90:10	90:10	90:10
UT without Legislature	100:00	100:00	100:00

Social Security benefits to Anganwadi Workers (AWWs)/Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs)

In accordance with the decision of the Government to migrate existing insurance schemes to Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)/Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Anganwadi Workers (AWWs)/Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) in the age group of 18-50 years are covered under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) providing life cover of Rs. 2.00 Lakh (covers life risk, death due to any reason); those in the age group of 18-59 years are covered under Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) for accidental cover of Rs. 2.00 Lakh (for accidental death and permanent full disability)/Rs. 1.00 Lakh (for partial but permanent disability); and those in the age group of 51-59 years are covered with the modified Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana (AKBY) for life cover of Rs. 30,000/- (covers life risk, death due to any reason). The migration is effective from 01.06.2017.

The AWWs/AWHs are also provided Female Critical Illness benefits of Rs. 20,000/- on diagnosis of identified illness {invasive cancers (malignant tumour) manifest in the organs viz. Breast, Cervix Uteri, Corpus Uteri, Ovaries, Fallopian Tubes and Vaginal/vulva}, subject to proof of affliction satisfactory to LIC; and scholarships to their children studying in 9th to 12th Standard (including ITI courses). Scholarship of Rs. 300/- per quarter is available for two children per family. These social security benefits to AWWs/AWHs are being provided in association with the LIC. The cost of premium towards these social security benefits is borne by the Ministry and LIC. The State Governments/UT Administrations or the AWWs/AWHs are not required to

make any payment towards these social security benefits. Expenditure of Rs. 13746.28 crores was made under the Scheme against the total outlay of Rs. 17890.19 crores (R.E.) as on 07.01.2019.

POSHAN ABHIYAAN

The Government of India has set-up POSHAN Abhiyaan (National Nutrition Mission) which was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 8th March, 2018 from Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan. With an overall budget of Rs.9,046.17 crore (50% from Government source and 50% from IBRD), the programme through the use of technology, a targeted approach and convergence, strives to reduce the level of stunting, under-nutrition, anemia and low birth weight in children, as also, focus on adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers, thus holistically addressing malnutrition. The programme aims to ensure service delivery and interventions by use of technology, behavioral change through convergence and lays-down specific targets to be achieved across different monitoring parameters over the next few years. To ensure a holistic approach, all 36 States/UTs and districts will be covered in a phased manner. 315 districts covered in 2017-18, 268 districts covered in 2018-19 and remaining districts will be covered in 2019-20. More than 10 crore people will be benefitted by this programme. Never before has nutrition got so much prominence at the highest level in the country.

The goals of POSHAN Abhiyaan are to achieve improvement in nutritional status of Children from 0-6 years, Adolescent Girls, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers in a time bound manner during the next three years beginning 2017-18 with fixed targets as under:

S. No	Objective	Target
1.	Prevent and reduce Stunting in children (0- 6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
2.	Prevent and reduce under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
3.	Reduce the prevalence of anemia among young Children(6-59 months)	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
4.	Reduce the prevalence of anemia among Women and Adolescent Girls in the age group of 15-49 years	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
5.	Reduce Low Birth Weight (LBW)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.

The Abhiyaan aims to reduce mal-nourishment from the Country in a phased manner, through the life cycle concept, by adopting a synergized and result oriented approach. The Abhiyaan will ensure mechanisms for timely service delivery and a robust monitoring as well as intervention infrastructure.

National Creche Scheme

National Creche Scheme is being implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme through the States/UTs with effect from 01.01.2017 to provide day care facilities to children of working mothers and other deserving women. The main components of the Scheme are as under:

- Day care facilities are provided to the children of age group of 6 months to 6 years of working women who are employed for a minimum period of 15 days in a month or 6 month in a year.
- Facilities to be provided to 25 children in each crèche.
- The Scheme provides day care facilities including sleeping facilities, supplementary nutrition, health care inputs like immunization and basic health monitoring, early stimulation for children below 3 years, pre-school education for 03-06 years old children and emergency medicines.
- The crèche may charge families an amount of Rs. 20/- for BPL families, Rs. 100/- for families, with income (both parents) up to Rs. 12,000/- per month and Rs. 200/- for families, with income (both parents) above Rs. 12,000/- per month. This will ensure better participation of the community and also increase the centres resources which can be utilized for welfare of children and up gradation of facilities of crèche.

During the year 2018-19, an amount of Rs. 0.37 crores was disbursed under the scheme against the outlay of Rs. 30 crores (R.E.) as on 07.01.2019.

National Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Policy

Ministry has formulated the National Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Policy and the same has been approved and notified by the Government of India in the gazette on 12.10.2013. The Policy lays down the way forward for a comprehensive approach towards ensuring a sound foundation for survival, growth and development of the child with focus on care and early learning for every child. It recognizes the synergistic and interdependent relationship between the health, nutrition, psycho-social and emotional needs of the child. This would add impetus to the ECCE activities mentioned in the revised service package of Anganwadi Services.

Scheme for Adolescent Girls under the Umbrella ICDS Scheme

Scheme for Adolescent Girls, a Centrally-sponsored scheme was introduced in the year 2010-11 on a pilot basis in 205 districts across the country. The Government approved continuation of the Scheme for Adolescent Girls for out of school adolescent girls of age 11-14 years on 16.11.2017, for a period of one year i.e. up to 30.11.2018 which has later been approved upto 31.03.2019. Government also approved expansion and universalisation of the Scheme for Adolescent Girls in a phased manner i.e. in additional 303 districts in 2017-18 and in the remaining districts in 2018-19. Accordingly, in 2017-18, the scheme was extended to additional 303 districts across the country and w.e.f. 01.04.2018, the Scheme for Adolescent Girls has been extended to all the districts of the country and Kishori Shakti Yojna has been phased out.

The scheme has nutritional and non-nutritional components, the integrated package of services provided to out of school adolescent girls in the age-group of 11-14 years are:-

- i. Nutrition provision
- ii. Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) supplementation
- iii. Health check-up and Referral service
- iv. Nutrition & Health Education (NHE)
- v. Mainstreaming out of school girls to join formal schooling, bridge course/skill training
- vi. Life Skill Education, home management etc.
- vii. Counselling/Guidance on accessing public services.

Against the outlay (R.E.) of Rs. 250 crores for the year 2018-19, expenditure of Rs. 162.19 crores has been incurred (as of 07.01.2019).

Child Protection and Welfare

The Constitution of India places safety and well-being of children at the highest priority. Children constitute about 39% of the total population of India (Census 2011). It has been widely accepted by policy makers of our country that investments made for the survival, education, protection and overall well-being of children helps in breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty and ensuring an inclusive growth for the country. In a vast country like India, children face multiple vulnerabilities in terms of accessing quality healthcare, education and child protection services. Moreover, new challenges are emerging every day, such as online exploitation of children, climate change and natural and man-made disasters which add to vulnerability of children. The Ministry of Women and Child Development has taken many initiatives to ensure safety and well-being of children.

IMPORTANT LAWS, SCHEMES AND PROGRAMMES FOR CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

National Policy for Children (NPC), 2013 and National Plan of Action for Children 2016

The Government has adopted a new National Policy for Children (NPC, 2013 on 26th April, 2013). The Policy reaffirms the Government's commitment to protect the rights of all children in the country. It recognizes every person below the age of eighteen years as a child and that childhood is an integral part of life with a value of its own, and a long term, sustainable, multispectral, integrated and inclusive approach is necessary for the harmonious development and protection of children.

The National Plan of Action for children, 2016 was released on 24th January, 2017. As children's needs are multispectral, interconnected and require collective action, the plan aims at purposeful convergence and strong coordination across different sectors and levels of governance; active engagement and partnership with all stakeholders; setting up of a comprehensive and reliable knowledge base; provision of adequate resources; and sensitization and capacity development of all those who work for and with children.

It has also identified emerging and new areas of concern related to development and protection of Children. The stakeholders are expected to strategize and initiate programmes to meet these emerging concerns and vulnerabilities. The plan has also

mapped district-wise vulnerabilities that children face; and this data is expected to feed into policies and programmes.

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012

To deal with child abuse cases, the Government has brought in a special law – ‘The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012’. The Act has come into force with effect from 14th November, 2012 along with the rules framed there under. The Act defines a child as a person below the age of 18 years and provides protection to all the children from the offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography. An offence is treated as ‘aggravated’ when committed by a person in a position of trust or authority of child such as a member of security forces, public officer, public servant etc. The Act provides for establishment of Special Courts for trial of offences, keeping the best interest of the child as of paramount importance at every stage of the judicial process. The Act incorporates child friendly procedures for reporting, recording of evidence, investigation and trial of offences.

POCSO e-Box is an online complaint box for reporting child sexual abuse. The POCSO e-Box was also launched by Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, the Minister for Women and Child Development in New Delhi on 26.8.2016. POCSO e-Box is an online complaint management system for easy and direct reporting of sexual offences against children and timely action against the offenders under the POCSO Act, 2012.

Consequent upon introduction of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018, Section 42 of the POCSO Act, 2012 stands amended and therefore the quantum of punishment of rape cases of girls less than 16 years of age has been increased. Death penalty has also been introduced as an option in rape cases of girls below 12 years of age.

Child Budgeting

Barring some specific initiatives, concerns of children often remain absent in the larger development narratives of the country. Hence, it is essential to maintain a reasonable focus on the sizeable child population of the country to provide opportunities and facilities as envisaged in the Constitution of India; to invest in the young population of the country at the right time and in the right manner; to enable the country harvest demographic dividends and to provide for their due and fair share within the development agenda of the country.

Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 is the primary legislation for ensuring the safety, security, dignity and well-being of children. The Act provides for protection of children in need of care and protection and those in conflict with law by catering to their basic needs through proper care, protection, development, treatment and social re-integration. It puts into place standards to secure the best interest of child. Under the Act, several new offences committed against children which were so far not adequately covered under any other law, are included; such as, sale and procurement of children for any purpose including illegal adoption, corporal punishment in child care institutions, use of child by militant groups, offences against disabled children, kidnapping and abduction of children.

CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES

For effective implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme i.e. Child Protection Services Scheme (erstwhile ICPS) since 2009-10 through the State Governments/UT Administrations on predefined cost sharing financial pattern. The objectives of the Scheme are to contribute to the improvement in the well-being of children in difficult circumstances, as well as, reduction of vulnerabilities to situation and actions that leads to abuse, neglect, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children from parent. The Scheme aims to spread awareness regarding the ways and means to prevent all children from child abuse of any kind including child sexual abuse. Further, it aims to create a safety net of dedicated structures, services and personnel for the protection of children from abuse and exploitation and provide social protection, by focusing on (a) improved access to quality child protection services; (b) raised public awareness about the reality of child rights, situation and physical and social protection in India; (c) clearly articulated responsibilities and enforced accountability for child protection (d) established and functional structures at all level for delivery of statutory and support services to children in difficult circumstances; (e) operational evidence based monitoring and evaluation.

CPS provides preventive, statutory care and rehabilitation services to children who are in need of care and protection and those in conflict with law as defined under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and any other vulnerable child. The JJ Act stresses upon the need for encouraging the mainstreaming of orphan, abandoned and surrendered children. It lays emphasis upon the

transmission of children in need of care and protection from institutional care to non-institutional care and acknowledges that every child has a right to family. Therefore, rehabilitation and reintegration of children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law is an important objective of this scheme along with the provision for adequate institutional care in the country. The scheme acknowledges the necessity for strengthening preventive action to secure welfare of children. It aims to provide ground level support to children and their care givers; raising awareness; and building capacities.

In the year 2018-19, the Ministry has assisted 1508 Homes, 335 Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs) and 267 Open Shelters through State Governments/UT Administrations. Apart from the institutional services, it has been reported by the State Governments/UT Administrations that so far 719 Child Welfare Committees and 709 Juvenile Justice Boards have been set up across the country.

In the financial year, 2018-19, proposals of 36 States/UTs and ChildLine India Foundation have been considered by the inter-ministerial Project Approval Board (PAB), set up for appraisal and approval of the financial proposals received under the Scheme. In 2018-19, Rs. 505.82 crores have been sanctioned and released (as on 07.01.2019) under the Scheme as against the total outlay of Rs. 925 crores.

Girl Child

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme (Celebrate Girl Child, Enable her Education) was launched on 22nd January, 2015 at Panipat, Haryana as a comprehensive programme to address the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of empowerment of women over a life-cycle continuum. The CSR, defined as number of girls per 1000 boys in the age group of 0-6 years, declined sharply from 976 in 1961 to 918 in Census 2011. Declining CSR reflects pre-birth discrimination manifested through gender biased sex selection and post birth discrimination against girls (in terms of health care, nutrition and education opportunities). Prevalent social constructs such as strong 'Son Meta Preference', that discriminate against girls on the one hand, and the availability and misuse of diagnostic tools that enable sex determination on the other has posed serious challenge to survival, protection and empowerment of girl child.

Initially the scheme was implemented in 161 selected districts. Looking at encouraging trends in the 161 districts and the magnitude/criticality of the problem and its spread across the country; it was realized that no district can be left out of BBBP ambit if a real progress is to be made towards improvement in overall CSR. Accordingly, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for

expansion of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao with a proposed outlay of Rs. 1132.5 crore from 2017-18 to 2019-20, to be funded 100% by the Central Government.

Currently Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) is being implemented on All India basis covering 640 districts (as per Census 2011) across the country. Out of 640 districts, 405 districts (161 old districts + 244 new districts) are covered under multi-sectoral activities along with Media Advocacy and the remaining 235 districts are covered under alert media advocacy & outreach activities only.

BBBP Scheme is a tri-ministerial initiative of Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health & Family Welfare and Human Resource Development with a focus on awareness and advocacy campaign for changing mindsets, multi-sectoral action in select districts, enabling girls' education and effective enforcement of Pre-Conception & Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act. The specific objectives of the scheme include preventing gender biased sex selective elimination; ensuring survival and protection of the girl child and ensuring education and participation of the girl child.

The BBBP programme has been well-received and favourable trends are visible in many districts. As per the HMIS data of MoHFW for 161 BBBP districts indicate that for the time period between April-March, 2015-16 & 2016-17, an improving trend in Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) is visible in 104 districts, 119 districts have reported progress in first trimester registration against the reported Anti Natal Care registrations and 146 districts have reported improvement in institutional deliveries.

The transformative potential of BBBP could be assessed in the kind of local level innovative initiatives undertaken by District Administration in coordination with WCD, Health and Education departments. The multi- sectoral action initiatives in the districts have been mainly targeted towards engaging communities for change of mind set, promoting 100% institutional deliveries, maintaining village level record of birth and their exhibition in public places through *Guddi Gudda Boards*, birth registration, encouraging celebration of girl child, challenging son-centric rituals and reversing the social norms, re-enrollment drives for getting girls back to schools and campaigns to prevent child marriage. The plan scheme outlay for BBBP is Rs. 280.0 crores, against which Rs. 164.42 has been spent in the year 2018-19 (as on 07.01.2019).

Women Empowerment and Protection

The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Indian Constitution. The Constitution not only grants equality to women, but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women to neutralize the cumulative socio-economic and political disadvantages faced by them. Women have fundamental rights to not be discriminated on the grounds of sex and get equal protection under the law. It also imposes a fundamental duty on every citizen to renounce the practices derogatory to the dignity of women.

Empowerment of women is a process that leads women to claim their rights to have access to equal opportunities in economic, cultural, social and political spheres of life and realise their full potential. This progress has to be accompanied by their freedom in decision making both within and outside their home with the ability to influence the direction of social change. The Ministry has taken a number of initiatives to empower women and to ensure their safety. These are detailed below.

DRAFT NATIONAL POLICY FOR WOMEN 2017

The Draft National Policy for Women (NPW) 2017 has been prepared keeping in view the socio economic changes that have occurred since the last policy formulation in 2001. Socially inclusive rights based approach for women provided under the Constitution on a life cycle continuum, forms the framework of the policy, which will guide various sectors to integrate the key principles of gender equality into their prevailing policies, strategies and program documents and enable the holistic empowerment of women.

The Draft envisions a society in which, women attain their full potential and are able to participate as equal partners in all spheres of life. The draft Policy addresses the diverse needs of women through identified priority areas: (i) Health including Food Security and Nutrition; (ii) Education; (iii) Economy (including agriculture, industry, labour, employment, NRI women, soft power, service sector, science and technology); (iv) Governance and Decision Making; (v) Violence Against Women; (vi) Enabling Environment (including housing, shelter and infrastructure, drinking water and sanitation, media and culture, sports and social security); and (vii) Environment and Climate Change.

The Draft Policy also prescribes operational strategies for implementation, these include framing of Action Plans at the national, state and local level; strengthening

gender institutional architecture; enacting new legislations and reviewing/harmonizing legislations; engaging with stakeholders for advocacy and awareness generation; strengthening institutionalization of gender budgeting and creating an effective gender based data base. The policy formulation process has taken into consideration multi-stakeholder feedback- it was placed online to seek public comments through the MyGovportal and consultations were also held with various Ministries/Departments and States/UTs. In addition, recommendations from 5 regional consultations organized by NCW across the country were also considered. Over 15,000 crowd-sourced ideas have also been considered as part of the policy formulation process.

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR WOMEN

On the legal front, the Ministry has been active in ensuring the protection of law to the most vulnerable. Work is being carried out to ensure optimum implementation of laws for women.

Sexual Harassment at Workplace

The Sexual Harassment at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 covers all women, irrespective of their age or employment status and protects them against sexual harassment at all workplaces whether organized or unorganized. Students, apprentices, labourers, domestic workers and even women visiting an officer are included in the Act.

In order to ensure the effective implementation of the Act, the Ministry has developed an online complaint management system titled Sexual Harassment electronic-Box (SHe-Box) for registering complaints related to sexual harassment at workplace. SHe-Box portal offers the facility of making online complaints of sexual harassment at workplace to all women employees in the country, including all government and private employees.

Child Marriage

The Ministry has been taking action to end the practice of child marriage. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 punishes those who promote, perform and abet child marriage. The Ministry is working for the strict implementation of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 by pursuing local administration to conduct preventive activities. Letters are regularly sent out to District Collectors to increase alertness to prevent underage marriages during festivals such as AkshayaTritiya/AkhaTeej. The

prevention of child marriage and protection of the girl child is a prominent part of the National Plan of Action for Children, 2016

While illegal, child marriages are currently not automatically void, rather they are voidable at the option of the minor person in the marriage. An amendment has been proposed by the Ministry to the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 so as to make child marriages henceforth *void ab initio* or invalid in law. This would be an effective deterrent to the practice. In 2017, the Ministry also took up the issue for dichotomy between IPC Section 375 (rape) and the Protection of Children against Sexual Offences Act (POCSO), 2012. In accordance with this, a decision by the Hon'ble Supreme Court this year has criminalized sex between a man and his underage wife – a big success for the Ministry.

Draft Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection& Rehabilitation) Bill, 2017

Presently, in India there is no comprehensive legislation for the prevention of trafficking and protection and rehabilitation of the victims of trafficking. In order to fill the existing gaps, Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and rehabilitation) Bill, 2017 was drafted by the Ministry to cover various aspects of trafficking by including various offences pertaining to trafficking and also for the prevention, protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking.

This was further placed on the website of the Ministry for comments and suggestions. Based on the suggestions received the Bill was modified and further discussed in four regional consultations held in Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai, with different stakeholders including non-governmental organisations. The suggestions were taken into consideration and the Bill was again modified. Thereafter as per approval of the Cabinet and assent of the President, the Bill 'Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection& Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018' was introduced in the Lok Sabha and was passed by the House on 26th July 2018.

The Bill aims to prevent the trafficking of persons, to prosecute offenders and to provide care, protection and rehabilitation to the victims of trafficking. It provides for new offences with stringent punishment with fine, which are aggravated in nature and not addressed in existing laws. It also provides for timely disposal of cases and repatriation of victims as well as constitution of a Rehabilitation Fund for welfare and rehabilitation of victims.

Domestic Violence

The Ministry is working to ensure protection of women both inside and outside the home. The implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA), 2005 is being pushed across the country. The Act recognizes the right of all women to live free from violence within the private sphere of their home. It also protects women in their natal homes as well as those live-in relationships, provided that such relationships are in the nature of marriage. The objective of the law is to prevent violence and provide immediate and emergency relief in case of such situations irrespective of the status of woman's relationship with the respondent. A media campaign in this regard was rolled out over television, radio and online mediums in 2018.

Dowry Prohibition

Recognizing the need to address the social evil of dowry, the Dowry Prohibition Act was enacted in 1961. By encouraging the implementation of this Act, the Ministry is working to bring an end to the practice of dowry. The Act defines dowry and penalizes the giving, taking or abetting the giving and taking of dowry. It also lays down a built-in implementation mechanism in the form of Dowry Prohibition Officers to ensure effective enforcement of the law. Multi-sectoral advocacy has been carried out to positively influence the mindsets of people and discourage them from giving and taking dowry. A radio, print, television and social media campaign in this regard was also rolled out in 2018.

Indecent Representation of Women

The Indecent Representation of Women Act, 1986 was enacted with the specific objective of prohibiting the indecent representation of women. It prohibits such representation in any form in any advertisement, publication, writing, painting or in any other manner and also prohibits selling, distribution, circulation of any books, pamphlets, and such other material containing indecent representation of women. Taking into consideration the advent of technological development, amendments to the Act have been proposed to cover audio-visual and digital content which contains indecent representation of women.

SCHEMES FOR WOMEN

Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)

The Hon'ble Prime Minister announced the Pan-India implementation of the Maternity Benefit Programme on 31st December, 2016. The Ministry had immediately started working on the scheme and the detailed scheme was formulated for which the

Cabinet accorded its approval on 17th May, 2017. Subsequently, on 19th May, 2017 the administrative approval of the scheme was conveyed to the States/UT Administrations. The programme has since been named as Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY).

The Scheme envisages providing cash incentive amounting to Rs.5,000/- in three installments directly to the Bank/Post Office Account of Pregnant Women and Lactating Mother (PW&LM) in DBT Mode during pregnancy and lactation in response to individual fulfilling specific conditions as detailed below:

Cash Transfer	Conditions	Amount in Rs.
First Instalment	• Early Registration of Pregnancy	1,000/-
Second Instalment	• Received at least one antenatal Check-up (after 6 months of pregnancy)	2,000/-
Third Instalment	• Child birth is registered • Child has received first cycle of BCG, OPV, DPT and Hepatitis-B or its equivalent/substitute	2,000/-

The beneficiary would also continue to get benefits under Janani Suraksha Yojana so that on an average a beneficiary gets Rs. 6,000/-.

Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) has been designed as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under which the grant-in-aid is being released to States/UTs on cost sharing ratio basis. The ratio between the Centre and the States & UTs with Legislature is 60:40, for North-Eastern States & Himalayan States it is 90:10 and 100% for Union Territories without Legislature.

During the current financial year of 2018-19, the Plan scheme outlay (R.E) under PMMVY is Rs.1200.00 crore. Out of this, Rs. 430.67 crore has been sanctioned/released to all 36 States/UTs during 2018-19 as on 07.01.2019.

Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK) Scheme

Government of India has approved Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK) Scheme in November, 2017 for implementation during 2017-18 up to 2019-20 to empower rural women through community participation. The scheme is envisaged to work at various levels and at the national (through domain based knowledge support) and state level (through State Resource Centre for Women under the respective State Government /UT Administration) technical support to the respective government on issues related to women is provided.

MSK Scheme is being implemented with a cost sharing ratio of 60:40 between centre and states except for NE & Special Category States where the funding ratio is 90:10. Requisite approval (administrative & financial) in the respective State Government is necessary for effective implementation of the scheme. MSK Scheme is approved for implementation in 22 States/UTs. Expenditure under the scheme for the year 2018-19 stood at Rs. 56.91 crores against the plan scheme outlay (R.E) of Rs. 115.00 crores.

One Stop Centres (OSCs)

Many women who face violent crimes do not know where to go for support. For them, One Stop Centres (OSCs) have been set up across the country. The scheme of One Stop Centres was initiated in March 2015 for facilitating access to an integrated range of services including police, medical, legal, psychological support and temporary shelter to women affected by violence. The Scheme is funded through Nirbhaya Fund. Under the scheme, it has been envisaged that One Stop Centres would be set up across the country in phased manner.

One OSC has been sanctioned in every district of the country to provide this essential service to women everywhere. So far 240 OSC have become operational. These centres have offered support to over 1.93 Lakh women. They offer a single window to a range of services for women in 33 States/UTs. OSCs are also being integrated with 181 women helpline and other existing helplines to provide best possible access and support to women. The remaining Centres are in various stages of operationalization.

The scheme had a plan outlay (B.E) of Rs. 105.1 crore that was revised to Rs. 302.8 crore (R.E) against which an expenditure Rs. 75.58 crore has been incurred in the year 2018-19.

Women Helpline

The Scheme of Universalisation of Women Helpline is being implemented since 1st April, 2015 and is intended to provide 24 hours emergency and non-emergency response to women affected by violence through referral (linking with appropriate authority such as police, One Stop Centre, hospital) and information about women related government schemes/programmes across the country through a single uniform number (181). So far, women helplines have become operational in 31 States/UTs. They have managed more than 20.23 lakh calls of women. The Scheme is funded through

Nirbhaya Fund. Expenditure of Rs. 7.17 crore has been incurred against the outlay of Rs. 28.8 crores for the year 2018-19

Mahila Police Volunteers

The Ministry, in collaboration with MHA has recently started the engagement of Mahila Police Volunteers (MPVs) in States/UTs. These MPVs will act as a link between police and community and facilitate women in distress. Guidelines of Mahila Police Volunteers have been developed in collaboration with Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), Ministry of Home Affairs. The Scheme is funded through Nirbhaya Fund. An MPV will serve as a public police interface in order to fight crimes against women.

Swadhar Greh- A Scheme that Caters to Primary Needs of Women in Difficult Circumstances.

The Ministry is implementing the Swadhar Greh Scheme which targets the women victims of unfortunate circumstances who are in need of institutional support for rehabilitation so that they could lead their life with dignity. The Scheme envisages providing shelter, food, clothing and health as well as economic and social security for the women victims of difficult circumstances which includes widows, destitute women and aged women. As Swadhar Greh Scheme is being implemented as a sub-scheme of the Centrally Sponsored Umbrella Scheme 'Protection and Empowerment of Women'; funds are released through the States, with cost sharing ratio of 60:40 between the Centre and the States except for the North Eastern and Himalayan States where it shall be 90:10 and for UTs it is 100% with effect from 01.04.2016.

Under the Scheme, Swadhar Greh will be set up in every district with capacity of 30 women with the following objectives:

- i. To cater to the primary need of shelter, food, clothing, medical treatment and care of the women in distress and who are without any social and economic support.
- ii. To enable them to regain their emotional strength that gets hampered due to their encounter with unfortunate circumstances.
- iii. To provide them with legal aid and guidance to enable them to take steps for their readjustment in family/society.
- iv. To rehabilitate them economically and emotionally.
- v. To act as a support system that understands and meets various requirements of women in distress.
- vi. To enable them to start their life afresh with dignity and conviction.

Under the Swadhar Greh Scheme, assistance is provided to eligible organizations for undertaking above activities. As on date a total of 424 Swadhar Greh are functioning in the country benefiting 12,698 women. The provision of Rs. 50.00 crore (R.E) has been kept in FY 2018-19 for implementing the Scheme; expenditure of Rs. 5.59 crore has been incurred during the year.

Working Women Hostel Scheme

Working Women Hostel Scheme aims at providing safe and affordable accommodation to working women. These hostels have Day care facility for the children of inmates too. The Ministry provides financial support for establishing such hostels by NGOs or State Governments. The cost sharing ratio amongst the Central Government, States/UTs (other than NE and Himalayan States) and Implementing Agencies will be 60:15:25 for construction of building for Working Women Hostel/ running hostel in rented premises. For NE and Himalayan States, the ratio will be 65:10:25.

Since its inception in 1972-73, 955 hostels have been sanctioned under the scheme all over the country benefitting about 72,418 working women. In the financial year 2018-19, a budgetary allocation of Rs. 52.00 crore (R.E) was made for the construction of working women's hostel across the country, out of which, Rs.18.17 crore have been released up to 07.01.2019.

INITIATIVES FOR WOMEN

Ujjawala Schemes for Combating Trafficking

Ujjawala is a comprehensive scheme to combat trafficking. The Scheme was launched in the year 2007 with the objective to prevent trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation, to facilitate rescue victims and placing them in safe custody, to provide rehabilitation services by providing basic amenities/needs, to facilitate reintegration of victims into the family and society, to facilitate repatriation of cross border victims. The Scheme is being implemented mainly through the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). The norms of the Ujjawala Scheme have been revised w.e.f. from 01.04.2016. Under the revised norms, the budgetary provisions have been increased and the scheme is being implemented through the States/UTs as a sub-scheme of the Centrally Sponsored Umbrella Scheme "Protection and Empowerment of Women". The cost ratio is 60:30:10 between Centre, States and implementation agency except North-Eastern States and Himalayan States where it is 80:10:10. In Union Territories the ratio between the centre and implementing agency is 90:10.

The Scheme has five components-Prevention, Rescue, Rehabilitation, Re-Integration and Repatriation of trafficked victims for commercial sexual exploitation. Some of the activities envisaged under the Scheme are: -

- i. Formation of community vigilance groups, sensitization workshops, awareness creation and preparation of awareness generating material, holding workshops, etc.
- ii. Safe withdrawal of victims from the place of exploitation.
- iii. Rehabilitation of victims by providing them safe shelter, basic amenities, medical care, legal aid, vocational training and income generation activities.
- iv. Re-integration of victims into society.
- v. Provide support to cross-border victims for their safe repatriation to their country of origin.

Under the Ujjawala Scheme, assistance is provided to eligible organizations for undertaking above activities. As on date total of 270 projects are under Ujjawala Scheme which include 148 Rehabilitation Homes. The budget provision of Rs.50.00 crore has been kept in FY 2018-19 for implementing the Ujjawala Scheme.

A total amount of Rs. 5.27 crore was released to nine States including Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana as grant for 1st installment of year 2018-19 and pending grant of years 2016-17 & 2017-18 based on their Utilization certificates and supporting documents.

Support to Women in NRI Marriages

Many women are deserted, face violence and have issues in their marriages to NRI men. These cases are difficult to resolve due to application of cross-border laws. The Government of India has constituted an Expert Committee to look into the issues and difficulties faced by Indian nationals married to overseas nationals of Indian origin and suggest amendments in existing laws/policies/regulation. This Committee is headed by Justice Arvind Kumar Goel, ex-Chairperson, NRI Commission of Punjab. The Committee has submitted a report titled 'Identification of Legal and Regulatory Challenges faced by Indian Nationals married to Overseas Indian Nationals - Suggestions for Amelioration of their Grievances'.

The report presents a number of recommendations including amendment of the Registration of Births and Deaths Act 1969 by making registration of marriages mandatory; creation of an Integrated Nodal Agency; Branch Nodal Agencies; sensitization of law enforcement agencies, women cells, judicial officers etc.; increase in

amount of assistance; convention with foreign countries; revocation/impounding of passport; deportation; extradition – provisional arrest and Red Corner Notice (RCN); creation of website for NRI marriages; awareness campaigns among others.

Combating Cyber Crime

Looking at the rising cases of cyber space being used to perpetrate violence on women and children, the Ministry has taken up the issue of cyber-crime in a holistic manner. To address the issue of easy availability of child sexual abuse material/imagery, an Inter-Ministerial Committee constituted by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), with membership of MWCD. This Committee has issued an advisory to all Internet Service Providers within the country to prevent the distribution and transmission of child sexual abuse material.

Efforts are being made to develop a fast track mechanism to complain and enable swift and speedy removal/blockage of online content offensive to women and children, such as Child Sexual Abuse Material, Rape/Gang Rape Imagery/ Revenge Porn etc. An Anti-Trolling Helpline and Cyber Crime Grievance Redressal Cell have also been created by the Ministry for women and children to report complaints of cyber-crime, abusive behaviour, harassment and hateful conduct on social media etc. Complaints are received at complaint-mwcd@gov.in or posted on social media with hashtag #HelpMeWCD, with each complaint closely followed and responded.

National Database on Sexual Offenders

The National Database on Sexual Offenders (NDSO) has been made live online with support from the Nirbhaya Fund. This is an online database of sexual offenders in the country, which is being maintained by NCRB. The database is accessible only to law enforcement agencies to assist them in effectively tracking and investigating cases of sexual offences. NDSO includes offenders convicted under charges of rape, gangrape, POCSO, molestation etc. The database includes name, address, photograph and fingerprint details for each entry, at present, the database contains 4.4 lakh entries.

Amendment in Passport Rules

Further, recognising the role of single mothers, passport rules have been amended in their favour. Now either mother's or father's name can be provided in application form, simplifying the process especially for single mothers. Women need not depend on their husbands for applications now as they do not have to provide certificate of marriage/divorce during application.

New Taxi Policy Guidelines

New Taxi Policy Guidelines have been put in place in consultation with the Ministry that has much improved safety measures for women. As per these guidelines, now it is mandatory for all taxis to have GPS panic devices, disabled child-locking system, prominent display of driver's identification with photo and registration number of the vehicle. The sharing of seat also now has to be subject to willingness of female passenger.

RECOGNITION FOR WOMEN

Nari Shakti Puruskar

Every year, International Women's Day is celebrated on 8th March. On this day, a large number of events are held across the country to inspire and celebrate achievements of women in various spheres. As it has been a tradition, Ministry of Women & Child Development celebrates International Women's Day on 8th March every year. On this occasion, "Nari Shakti Puraskars" are given to individuals and institutions which/that have rendered distinguished service to the cause of women empowerment.

In the year 2018, the Ministry announced 39 national level awards [9 institutional + 30 Individual (including two group awards)] for conferring on individual women and institutions. The awards were conferred on women and institutions from different parts of the country and they represented a variety of fields. The Award carried a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh each and a certificate.

Gender Budgeting

Women constitute 49% of India's population¹, yet they lag behind men on many social indicators like health, education, economic opportunities, etc. and are placed at a more vulnerable position. To address these vulnerabilities, the Government of India has been committed to promote gender equality in all areas of development. This is evident in the legislative mandates and policy frameworks for gender equality, gender responsive schemes and programmes, as well as establishment of various institutions that aim at advancing women's empowerment. However, it was recognized that the way Government budgets allocate resources; it has the potential to transform gender inequalities. Looking at the huge potential of Government budgets to make positive changes in gender dimensions of society, Gender Budgeting was adopted by the Government of India as a budgetary strategy at the national level in 2005-06 with the introduction of the Gender Budget Statement as part of our national budget.

Gender Budgeting (GB) is not an accounting exercise but an ongoing process to ensure that the benefits of development reach women as much as men. In fact, Gender Budgeting, as an approach, is not confined to budgets alone; rather it covers analyzing various economic policies from the gender perspective. Gender Budgeting entails maintaining a gender perspective at various stages like programme/policy formulation, assessment of needs of target groups, review of existing policies and guidelines, allocation of resources, implementation of programmes, impact assessment, reprioritization of resources, etc. A gender responsive budget is the culmination of this process.

For Gender Budgeting in India, this decade is a significant one as it marks the completion of ten years of Gender Budgeting in India. This has thereby emphasized on the need for Governments to prioritize allocations for women thereby linking the policy and legal mandates on gender equality to requisite resource allocations for their implementation.

In 2004-05, the Ministry of Women and Child Development adopted 'Budgeting for Gender Equity' as a Mission Statement. Since then, the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) as the nodal agency for Gender Budgeting has been undertaking several initiatives for taking gender responsive planning and budgeting forward at the National and State and Local Levels.

¹ Census of India 2011

The Ministry has been following a three pronged strategy to pursue the process of Gender Budgeting in the country:

- i. Placing emphasis on and advocating for setting up of gender budgeting structures/mechanisms in all Ministries/Departments of the Government;
- ii. Strengthening internal and external capacities and building expertise to undertake gender mainstreaming of policies/schemes/programmes; and
- iii. Facilitating Gender Budget analysis and performance/gender audit of existing programmes, which would then feed into addressing gaps and strengthening service delivery mechanisms.

During the year 2018-19, an amount Rs. 4.37 crore has been disbursed as on 07.01.2019.

Plan, Statistics and Research

Planning, implementation and monitoring of schemes/programmes/ policies requires efficient statistical system. The need for compiling quality and credible data/information about the various initiatives taken by the Ministry has been well recognised. The Statistics Bureau of the Ministry has been entrusted to look after the collection and compilation of statistics, to sponsor meaningful research in the fields of welfare and development of women and children, and, to handle the mechanism of redressal of public grievances and complaints.

To monitor the SDG and its associated targets, a National Indicator Framework (NIF) comprising of 306 national indicators has been developed in consultation with Central Ministry/Departments, States and other stakeholders such as UN Agencies and Civil Society. In this regard, the Statistics Bureau has been assigned to provide data for the indicators associated with the targets on SDG-1 'End Poverty in all its form everywhere' and SDG-5 'Achieve Gender equality and Empower all Women and Girls'.

Grant-in-Aid for Research and Publications Scheme

The Ministry sponsors the projects/research studies on issues concerning to women and children for their welfare and development, including Food and Nutrition aspects. The grants cover (i) research including action research for the development of innovative programmes or for testing the feasibility and efficacy of programmes and services; (ii) workshops/seminars/conferences which will be helpful in formulating research proposal, disseminating research findings or in social situational analysis likely to be helpful in planning, programming and review of implementation, (iii) monitoring of programmes (iv) Lecture on Major topics (v) Internship Programme and (vi) Other activities. Research grants can be made to an institution or a group of institutions for carrying out a specific research project with one or more scholars closely associated therewith. The institutions, viz, universities, research institutes, and voluntary organizations, professional associations in the field of women and child development and similar organizations/agencies which have the capacity to do research thereon, may be entrusted to undertake the same. Institutions set up and fully funded by Central Government / State Governments / Public Sector Undertakings are also eligible for the same. The voluntary organization should have 3 (three) years' experience after registration. The Ministry has sanctioned 15 new projects, including two workshops during the current financial year 2018-19.

The Bureau also conducts Internship program for young students under the Research Scheme of the Ministry, with an objective of involving young students/scholars in research and related activities for various schemes of the Ministry. Broadly, this programme was primarily designed to apprise the enrolled interns from various Universities/Academic Institutions with the policies and programmes of the Ministry through short-term orientation. They are also encouraged to undertake pilot projects/micro-studies focusing on the ongoing activities of the Ministry.

The Internship Programme was launched on 22nd August, 2016 and in a span of only two years it has been a great achievement of the Ministry in orienting young students of graduate and post graduate level coming from Universities and Institutes across the country. The programme is running successfully, with an overall intake of almost 96 interns in this year. During the programme duration, the interns are also attached with different Bureaus keeping in view their interest areas. A certificate and stipend of Rs. 5,000/- per month for short term internship (2-3 months) and Rs. 10,000/- per month for long term internship programme (6 months) are given to encourage the students. Besides, non-stipendiary internship programme is also being implemented wherein only certificates are provided to the interns on successful completion of the programme duration.

Public Grievances

The Grievance redressal mechanism is a part and parcel of an accountability machinery of any administration. Government of India attaches top priority to the Public Grievances (PGs) and their redressal. To make the Ministry responsive and friendly to the people, an effective grievance redressal mechanism has been established in the Ministry. Public Grievances received in the Ministry are attended and responded on top priority. A Director of the Ministry has been designated as Public Grievance Officer. For strong and effective grievances redressal mechanism in the Ministry, all Divisional Heads in the Ministry and one officer each from all the attached/subordinate offices have been nominated as Nodal Officers for public grievances in respect of their Division/ Office. The disposal of public grievances is monitored on weekly basis by the Secretary (WCD) in Senior Officers' Meeting.

Reports Published by Statistics Bureau

The Bureau published three important documents in the year 2018-19 *vis* 'A list of Performing and Non-Performing NGOs', 'Research Compendium' and the Report on Child Care Institutions and Other Homes in India. The State-wise list of performing and non-performing NGOs will be helpful in assisting Ministries to decide upon provision

of funds or assignment of any task to the NGOs. The Research Compendium intends to provide information in an easily understandable form, which could be used by the Government Departments, social scientists, researchers and other scholars interested in the welfare of women and children. The Report on Child Care Institutions provides analysis of the Mapping and Review Exercise of Child Care Institutions under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and Other Homes. All the three reports are available on the Ministry's website.

Food and Nutrition Board

The Food & Nutrition Board (FNB) was set up in 1964 under the Ministry of Food and was transferred to the Ministry of Women and Child Development in 1993 with all powers of a Central Government Department. Food and Nutrition Board is a technical wing of the Ministry with a countrywide set up at the Centre with 4 Regional Offices and 4 Quality Control Laboratories located at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai with 42 Community Food & Nutrition Extension Units (CFNEUs) located in 30 States/ UTs. FNB Headquarters, through its 4 Regional Offices, provides the technical as well as logistic support for the functioning of CFNEUs which conducts Nutrition Extension programmes in/for the Community.

In the 12th Five Year Plan, Food & Nutrition Board had been recognized by the Planning Commission as one of the key players to reduce the malnutrition level in the country and FNB's major task is to address this major challenge. The main functions of FNB are as under:-

- i. To oversee implementation of various nutrition oriented sectoral interventions and issue policy guidelines on critical nutrition related matters.
- ii. To promote and coordinate activities with regard to bringing nutritional issues to the centre stage through advocacy and sensitization of policy planners and implementers.
- iii. Campaigning on prevention and control of malnutrition at all levels including Infant and Young Child Nutrition.
- iv. Focusing on reduction in micronutrient malnutrition.
- v. Improving content and delivery of existing nutrition related interventions enlisting cooperation of professional institutions and social organizations in the area of nutrition and health.

FNB is engaged in the following activities:-

- i. Nutrition Education and Training for the masses and for the functionaries & Beneficiaries of Anganwadi Services;
- ii. Mass Nutrition Awareness Campaigns;
- iii. Development, production and distribution of nutrition education/training materials;

- iv. Food Analysis and Standardization;
- v. Training in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables and Nutrition;
- vi. Development and promotion of low cost nutritious recipes using locally available Foods;
- vii. Inter-Sectoral coordination and follow up action on the National Nutrition Policy, National Plan of Action on Nutrition and policy matters related to nutrition;
- viii. Quality analysis of supplementary nutrition under Anganwadi Services;
- ix. Implementation of Infant Milk Substitutes (Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods) Act;
- x. Technical support to Mid-Day Meal programme, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses and food fortification.

Activities/Events Organised

- The National Nutrition Week (1st – 7th September, 2018) was celebrated to intensify nutrition awareness through various modes and interventions to reach the masses in the far flung areas of the country. This year, the theme for the National Nutrition Week was “Ensuring focused interventions on addressing under-nutrition during the first 1000 days of the Child: Better Child Health”.
- The World Food Day was celebrated on 16th October, 2018 with various activities related to nutrition on the theme “OUR ACTIONS ARE OUR FUTURE. A #ZERO HUNGER WORLD BY 2030 IS POSSIBLE”.

During the year 2018-19, an amount of Rs. 10.67 crore has been spent by the Food and Nutrition Board (as on 07.01.2019) against the total outlay of Rs. 13.20 crores (R.E).

National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development

The National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, popularly known as NIPCCD, is a premier organization devoted to promotion of voluntary action, research, training and documentation in the overall domain of women and child development. It was established in New Delhi, in the year 1966, as an autonomous Institution under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, and functions under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, it is headquartered in New Delhi and has four Regional Centres at Guwahati (1978), Bengaluru (1980), Lucknow (1982), and Indore (2001) to cater to region-specific requirements.

The Institute focuses on essential and need-based programmes for the holistic development of the child and child protection and for creating awareness regarding women's empowerment and gender issues, especially women's rights – political, social and economic. The current thrust areas of the Institute relating to child development are maternal and child health and nutrition, early childhood care and education, childhood disabilities, positive mental health in children and childcare support services. The activities of the Institute in the area of women development are geared to support national policies and programmes for women's empowerment through training, research and documentation. The Institute is also focusing on gender planning and mainstreaming, gender-budgeting, economic and political empowerment of women, prevention of sexual harassment at work place, prevention of gender-related violence such as female foeticide, female infanticide, trafficking of women and children, child marriage, etc.

The objectives of the Institute are to:-

- i. Develop and promote voluntary action in social development;
- ii. Take a comprehensive view of child development and to promote and develop relevant need-based programmes in pursuance of the National Policy for Children;
- iii. Develop measures for coordination between government and voluntary action in social development;
- iv. Evolve framework and perspective for organising children's programmes through government and voluntary efforts; and

- v. Establish liaison with international and regional agencies, research institutions, universities and technical bodies engaged in activities similar to those of the Institute.

The vision of NIPCCD is to be seen as an Institute of global repute in child rights, child protection and child development by developing partnerships and linkages with national and international agencies and making its training and research activities relevant to the needs of its varying client groups. The Institute has been consistently invigorating its efforts towards accomplishment of its vision, which is evident in numerous programmes and activities conducted by the Institute.

The Institute has a General Body and an Executive Council. While the General Body is responsible for formulating overall policies of the Institute, the Executive Council is responsible for management and administration of the Institute. Both these bodies have representation of government and voluntary organizations. The Union Minister for Women and Child Development is the President of the General Body and Chairperson of the Executive Council.

There are two Departments, each being headed by an Additional Director, under which six divisions are functioning:-

1. **Department of Mother Care and Child Development**

- Child Development
- Public Cooperation and Child Protection
- Women's Development

2. **Department of Training and Common Services**

- Training
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Common Services

Programmes and Activities

Training and research are the core activities of the Institute. Besides these, the Institute also runs Field Demonstration Services at its Headquarters and Regional Centres and also brings out various publications in the areas of its interest. During the year 2018-19, NIPCCD organized a total of 249 training programmes and an amount of Rs 37.58 crore has been spent (as on 07.01.2019) against the total outlay of Rs. 59.41 crores.

Central Social Welfare Board

The Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) was set up by a Resolution of Government of India on 12th August, 1953 with the objective of promoting social welfare activities and implementing welfare programmes for women & children through voluntary organizations. In order to give it a legal status, the Board was registered as a charitable company in 1969. The State Social Welfare Boards were set up in 1954 in all 33 States and Union Territories to work together with Central Social Welfare Board in implementing programmes of the Board across the country. The Board is functioning as an interface between government and the voluntary sector. The Board has a long experience of almost six decades and a country-wide infrastructure to monitor implementation of programmes for empowerment of women through implementing agencies.

Family Counselling Centres (FCCs): The Scheme of Family Counselling Centre was introduced by CSWB in 1983. The centres provide counselling, referral and rehabilitative services to the women & children, who are victims of atrocities, family maladjustments and social ostracism and also provide crisis interventions and trauma counselling in case of natural and man-made disasters. The centres also create awareness and mobilize public opinion on social issues affecting status of women and provide pre-marital Counselling activities in Colleges/Universities. The FCCs work in close collaboration with the local administration, police, courts, free legal aid cells, medical and psychiatric institutions, vocational training centres, short stay homes, etc.

DIVISIONS OF CSWB

State Board Administration:

There are 33 State Social Welfare Boards, functioning in each State and UTs, functioning as a bridge between State and Centre for the strengthening and promotion of voluntarism. Monitoring of programmes is the responsibility of the State Boards. The State Board is headed by Chairperson who is appointed by respective State Governments in consultation with CSWB.

Personnel Management Division:

Central Social Welfare Board Head Quarters, New Delhi has sanctioned strength of 119 out of which 19 are in group A, 38 in group B and 62 in group C.

Field Officers Establishment:

Field Officers are instrumental for monitoring of schemes and programmes of CSWB implemented through voluntary organizations across the country. They submit Inspection Reports and give feedback to enable new policies which are need based. There are 60 sanctioned post for Field Officer out of which nine (Project Officers) are in Group-A and 51 (Assistant Project Officers and Welfare Officers) are in Group-B.

Coordination:

Coordination Division is instrumental in compiling, collaborating and coordinating various activities of the Board and providing key information & feedback to MWCD.

Monitoring and Capacity Building:

The Monitoring Assessment and Capacity Building Division (MAC) monitors the performance of the Field Officers attached with various State Social Welfare Boards vis-à-vis their role and responsibilities. Orientation Training Programmes are held regularly for the Field Officers to equip them with skills and update their knowledge, information and procedures on monitoring and implementation. The division also conducts State level advanced training programme for front line functionaries of One Stop Centre (OSC), Women Helpline (WHL), Family Counselling Centre (FCC) and Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK) for rendering quality services in coordinated assistance for women affected with violence. An expenditure of Rs.26.71 lakh has been incurred as on 30.11.2018.

Media Division- Social Welfare and Samaj Kaylan:

Central Social Welfare Board is publishing monthly magazines i.e. Social Welfare in English and Samaj Kaylan in Hindi. Both magazines have the most extensively documented material on all the social problems in Indian society and they are also referred to as resource material by students of social work. The theme based articles/features are included in the magazine which make informative and interesting reading. During the year 2018-19, 'Social Welfare' and 'Samaj Kalyan' magazines covered many women related issues like working women and their challenges, Women's Health, Girl's education, Women & Environment, Population and Family Planning, Freedom Movement, Old age, Child abuse and Human Rights .

Official Language Implementation Division:

During the year 2018-19, Official Language Implementation Division (OLID) has organized various activities to promote Hindi. Departmental meetings were regularly conducted by the Official Language Implementation Committee.

Vigilance Cell:

In order to prevent misutilization and misappropriation of funds, organizations whose performance is not satisfactory are debarred from further grants and even blacklisted. The Board also has a system of sharing of information regarding blacklisting of Voluntary Organizations with other Departments and Offices.

During the year 2018-19, under the Scheme of Family Counselling Centre a grant of Rs. 43.80 crores has been released (as on 07.01.2019) against the plan outlay of Rs. 71.50 crores.

National Commission for Women (NCW)

The National Commission for Women (NCW) is a statutory set-up under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990. In accordance with the mandate, as per Section 10 of the said Act, the main task of the Commission is to investigate and examine the legal safeguards provided to women viz. review existing provisions of the Constitution and other laws affecting women & recommend amendments to meet any inadequacies, if required, look into complaints and take *suo-moto* notice on matters relating to deprivation of women's rights, etc. and take up issues with appropriate authorities; take up research studies on issues of relevance to women, Gender Sensitization for Police Officers, participate and advise in the planning process for socio-economic development of women, evaluate socio-economic progress, inspect Jails, remand homes, etc. where women are kept under custody and seek remedial action wherever necessary.

In keeping with its mandate, the Commission has initiated various steps to improve the status of women. To ensure that women are treated in a humane manner, inspections of Psychiatric homes and Custodial Institutions such as jails/prisons have been undertaken by the Commission. Effective use of IT tools is made for timely redressal of grievances/complaints related to cases of violence against women, e.g. attempt to rape; rape; sexual assault, acid attack, sex selective abortion, female foeticide, sexual harassment including sexual harassment at work-place, practices derogatory to women's rights including sati pratha, devdasipratha, witch-hunting, indecent representation of women, dowry harassment/dowry death, trafficking of women, outraging modesty of women, stalking/voyeurism; cyber-crimes against women; bigamy/polygamy, right to exercise choice in marriage, domestic violence, cruelty, harassment, custody of children in the event of divorce, Gender discrimination including equal right to education and work, etc. The National Commission for Women (NCW) adopts a convergent approach among various Ministries to address grievances received at Non-Resident Indians (NRI) Cell. The complaints are processed expeditiously to appropriate authority and pursued till logical conclusion is reached. NCW has also initiated a 'Digital Literacy Programme' for college/university students to raise awareness about crimes and ways to handle those.

During the years 2018-19, NCW undertook different activities to ensure enhanced participation of women in different spheres of life. The National Commission for Women, in collaboration with Facebook and Cyber Peace Foundation (a civil society organization based in Ranchi, Jharkhand) launched 'Digital Shakti' Campaign at Punjab University Chandigarh on 18th June, 2018 and initiated a 'Digital Literacy Programme'

for college/university students. The programme seeks to promote digital literacy for women including the precautions that can be taken; raising awareness about cyber-crimes and advising users about the resources available to women; to prevent the problems and also how to handle such crimes. The total expenditure incurred by NCW is Rs. 18.06 crores against the plan outlay of Rs. 24.00 crores (R.E) as on 07.01.2019 during the year 2018-19.

Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)

The National Credit Fund for Women known as Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) was set up by the Government of India in 1993 as a national-level organization under the Ministry of Women and Child Development. RMK is a society registered under the Society Registration Act, 1860. RMK was initially set up with a corpus of Rs. 31 crore in 1993 to meet the credit needs of poor and asset less women in the informal sector. The initial corpus of Rs. 31 crore has grown over to Rs. 284 crore (including reserves and surplus etc.) as on 31st March, 2018 due to additional budgetary allocation of Rs. 69 crore (Rs. 10 crore in 2006-07; Rs. 12 crore in 2007-08; Rs. 31 crore in 2008-09 and Rs. 16 crore in 2009-10) and credit, investment and recovery management.

Administrative Set Up: The Governing Board of RMK consists of 16 members representing various Central Ministries/ Departments, State Governments, Specialists and Representatives of Organizations active in the field of micro credit. The Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Women and Child Development, is the Chairperson of the Governing Board and the Executive Director of RMK acts as Member Secretary. RMK meets all its administrative and establishment expenditure from internal resources.

Objectives: To bring about the socio-economic upliftment of poor women, RMK provides micro-finance services to the needy and poor women in the informal sector through a client friendly without collateral security and third party guarantee. The loans are granted for Income Generating Activities (IGA), housing, micro-enterprises, family needs, etc. RMK has also taken a number of promotional measures to popularize the concept of women empowerment by way of micro financing, thrift and credit, capacity building and marketing linkages through SHGs format and also enterprise development for poor women.

Through a client friendly mechanism, RMK provides credit to the poor women beneficiaries through Intermediary Micro Financing Organizations (IMOs) working at grass root level such as NGOs, Women Federations, Co-operatives, not for profit, companies registered under Section 25 of the Companies Act and other Voluntary/ Civil society organizations, etc. It has various types of loan schemes: i) Loan Promotion Scheme for providing smaller loan maximum up to Rs. 10 lakh to promote the activity of thrift and credit, ii) Main Loan Scheme under which up to Rs. 6 crores (Rs. 2 Crores per state at a time) is provided, iii) Gold Credit Scheme with a maximum credit of Rs. 5 Crores, iv) Housing Loan Scheme under which up to a maximum Rs. 1,00,000/- is given to SHG members for construction of low cost house and repairs, v) Working Capital

Term Loan (WCTL) for backward and forward marketing linkages of products of women SHGs/individuals and group of entrepreneurs, including technology transfer, education for skill up- gradation and infrastructure development. RMK is in the process of developing E-loan software to bring transparency in receiving and processing loan proposals.

Since its inception, RMK has made a cumulative disbursement of Rs. 308.70 crores. Out of the total cumulative disbursement, it has made a cumulative principal recovery of Rs. 263.83 crores. Apart from giving micro-credit to the women beneficiaries, RMK also builds capacity of SHG /women groups and partner NGOs in micro-finance and income generation activities to empower them and with a view to enable them to train their fellow members and prospective beneficiaries. The partner organizations that take loans from RMK are directed to, *inter alia*, impart literacy education, health awareness etc. to the women SHG members.

Mahila E-Haat

The Ministry of Women & Child Development launched “Mahila E-Haat”, a unique direct online marketing platform to support women entrepreneurs/ SHGs/ NGOs, on 07th March, 2016. It is an initiative for meeting aspirations and needs of women entrepreneurs aimed at providing an e-marketing platform by leveraging technology for showcasing products made/manufactured/sold by women entrepreneurs/SHGs/NGOs as also showcasing services reflecting their creative potential. The URL of the portal is <http://mahilaehaat-rmk.gov.in>. The Vision, Mission and Goal of Mahila E-Haat are:

Vision: To empower & strengthen financial inclusion of Women Entrepreneurs in the economy by providing continued sustenance and support to their creativity.

Mission: To act as a catalyst by providing a web based marketing platform to the women entrepreneurs to directly sell to the buyers.

Goal: To support ‘Make in India’ through digital marketing platform.

There are over 7120 products and services being displayed on the Mahila E-Haat portal as on 31st October, 2018, impacting 32121 women entrepreneurs/SHGs/NGOs and 7.25 lakh beneficiaries directly & indirectly.

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) was constituted by the Government of India, Ministry of Women and Child Development as a statutory body in March, 2007 under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, to protect, promote and defend child rights in the country.

Mandate

The Commission has been mandated to perform all or any of the following functions:

Under Section 13(1) of the CPCR Act, 2005

- i. Examine and review the safeguards provided by or under any law for the time being in force for the protection of child rights and recommend measures for their effective implementation;
- ii. Present to the Central Government, annually and at such other intervals, as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;
- iii. Inquire into violation of child rights and recommend initiation of proceedings in such cases;
- iv. Examine all factors that inhibit the enjoyment of rights of children affected by terrorism, communal violence, riots, natural disaster, domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, trafficking, maltreatment, torture and exploitation, pornography and prostitution and recommend appropriate remedial measures;
- v. Look into the matters relating to children in need of special care and protection including children in distress, marginalized and disadvantaged children, children in conflict with law, juveniles, children without family and children of prisoners and recommend appropriate remedial measures;
- vi. Study treaties and other international instruments and undertake periodical review of existing policies, programmes and other activities on child rights and make recommendations for their effective implementation in the best interest of children;
- vii. Undertake and promote research in the field of child rights;
- viii. Spread child rights literacy among various sections of the society and promote awareness of the safeguards available for protection of these rights through publications, the media, seminars and other available means;

- ix. Inspect or cause to be inspected any juvenile custodial home, or any other place of residence or institution meant for children, under the control of the Central Government or any State Government or any other authority, including any institution run by a social organization; where children are detained or lodged for the purpose of treatment, reformation or protection and take up with these authorities for remedial action, if found necessary;
- x. Inquire into complaints and take *suo-moto* notice of matters relating to:
 - a) Deprivation and violation of child rights;
 - b) Non-implementation of laws providing for protection and development of children;
 - c) Non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines or instructions aimed at mitigating hardships to and ensuring welfare of the children and to provide relief to such children, or take up the issues arising out of such matters with appropriate authorities; and
- xi. Such other functions as it may consider necessary for the promotion of child rights and any other matter incidental to the above functions.

Under Rule 17 of the NCPCR Rules, 2006

- i. Analyse existing law, policy and practice to assess compliance with Convention on the Rights of the Child, undertake inquiries and produce reports on any aspect of policy or practice affecting children and comment on proposed new legislation from a child rights perspective;
- ii. Present to the Central Government annually and at such other intervals as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;
- iii. Undertake formal investigations where concern has been expressed either by children themselves or by concerned person on their behalf;
- iv. Ensure that the work of the Commission is directly informed by the views of children in order to reflect priorities and perspective;
- v. Promote, respect and serious consideration of the views of children in its work and in that of all Government Departments and Organizations dealing with child;
- vi. Produce and disseminate information about child rights;
- vii. Compile and analyze data on children;
- viii. Promote the incorporation of child rights into the school curriculum, teachers training and training of personnel dealing with children.

Under Section 31 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009

- i. Examine and review the safeguards for rights provided by or under this Act and Recommend measures for their effective implementation;
- ii. Inquire into complaints relating to child's right to free and compulsory education.
- iii. Take necessary steps as provided under sections 15 and 24 of the said Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act.

Under Section 44 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and Rule 6 of POCSO Rules, 2012

- i. To monitor in the implementation of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012;
- ii. To monitor the designation of Special Courts by State Governments;
- iii. To monitor the appointment of Public Prosecutors by State Governments;
- iv. To monitor the formulation of the guidelines described in section 39 of the Act by the State Governments, for the use of non-governmental organisations, professionals and experts or persons having knowledge of psychology, social work, physical health, mental health and child development to be associated with the pre-trial and trial stage to assist the child, and to monitor the application of these guidelines;
- v. To monitor the designing and implementation of modules for training police personnel and other concerned persons, including officers of the Central and State Governments, for the effective discharge of their functions under the Act;
- vi. To monitor and support the Central Government and State Governments for the dissemination of information relating to the provisions of the Act through media including the television, radio and print media at regular intervals, so as to make the general public, children as well as their parents and guardians aware of the provisions of the Act;
- vii. To call for a report on any specific case of child sexual abuse falling within the jurisdiction of a CWC;
- viii. To collect information and data on its own or from the relevant agencies regarding reported cases of sexual abuse and their disposal under the processes established under the Act, including information on the following:-
 - a. Number and details of offences reported under the Act;
 - b. Whether the procedures prescribed under the Act and rules were followed, including those regarding timeframes;

- c. Details of arrangements for care and protection of victims of offences under this Act, including arrangements for emergency medical care and medical examination; and,
- d. Details regarding assessment of the need for care and protection of a child by the concerned CWC in any specific case.

Under Section 109 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2015

- i. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights constituted under section 3, or as the case may be, the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights constituted under section 17 (herein referred to as the National Commission or the State Commission, as the case may be), of the Commissions for Protection of Child rights Act, 2005, shall, in addition to the functions assigned to them under the said Act, also monitor the implementation of the provisions of this Act, in such manner, as may be prescribed.
- ii. The National Commission or, as the case may be, the State Commission, shall, while inquiring into any matter relating to any offence under this Act, have the same powers as are vested in the National Commission or the State Commission under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.
- iii. The National Commission or, as the case may be, the State Commission, shall also include its activities under this section, in the annual report referred to in section 16 of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.

Under Rule 91 of Model Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Rules, 2016

- i. Review setting up of institutions created under the Act;
- ii. Develop Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material on child rights and gender sensitivity;
- iii. Develop protocol for reformation and rehabilitation of children;
- iv. Create awareness about identification and reporting of crimes against children such as drug abuse, trafficking, child sexual abuse and exploitation including child marriage, and other aspects of violence against children;
- v. Conduct sensitization workshop for panchayati raj institutions and municipal corporations on crimes against children including identification and reporting of crimes for enhanced protection;
- vi. Develop information material detailing the rights of the child victims or witnesses and their families, and containing useful information in local languages, which may be provided to the victim and her/his family;
- vii. Develop training module for stakeholders along with the State Child Protection Societies and NIPCCD, etc.

Composition of the NCPCR

The Commission comprises of:

- i. A chairperson who is a person of eminence and has done outstanding work for promoting the welfare of children; and
- ii. Six Members (out of which at least two shall be women) from the following fields to be appointed by the Central Government from amongst persons of eminence, ability, integrity, standing and experience in,- education; child health, care, welfare or child development; juvenile justice or care of neglected or marginalized children or children with disabilities; elimination of child labour or children in distress; child psychology or sociology; and laws relating to children.

Activities

The Commission continued to inquire into complaints of violation/deprivation of child rights, inspection of child care institutions, examine factors inhibiting enjoyment of child rights, review existing laws and policies for children, promote public awareness and make inquiries into matters relating to deprivations of child rights etc. with its powers of a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

The methods adopted included field visits, issuance of communications in the form of letters, directives, guidelines and recommendations to the Government; complaints management and issue of summons; policy dialogues with Ministries; review meetings with States, survey, Research studies and regional and national level consultations for monitoring Child Rights.

The Commission inquires into complaints of violation/deprivation of child rights, inspection of child care institutions, examine factors inhibiting enjoyment of child rights, review existing laws and policies for children, promote public awareness and make inquiries into matters relating to deprivations of child rights etc. with its powers of a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. NCPCR has been monitoring the implementation of JJ Act in States under which it requested all States/UTs to send monthly report by 10th of every month on infrastructural facilities for implementation of the Act. During the year 2018-19, NCPCR incurred an expenditure of Rs. 11.11 crores (as on 07.01.2019) against the allocation of Rs. 17.83 crores (R.E).

Central Adoption Resource Authority

Role and Charter of CARA: Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), earlier an autonomous agency, became a Statutory Body as per the provisions under Section 68 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (Act No. 2 of 2016), w.e.f. 15th January, 2016. It functions as the nodal body at National level for promoting and regulating adoption of Indian children. As per the JJ Act, 2015, CARA has been mandated to undertake the following:

- i. Promote in-country adoptions and to facilitate inter-state adoptions in coordination with State Agencies;
- ii. Regulate inter-country adoptions;
- iii. Frame regulations on adoption and related matters from time to time, as may be necessary;
- iv. Carry out the functions of the Central Authority under the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of inter-country adoption;
- v. Any other function as may be prescribed.

JJ Act, 2015: The Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Chapter VIII of the Act notified by the Government has provisions for adoption of orphan, abandoned and surrendered children, and also for adoption of children by relative, as defined in the Act. The Act has adequate safeguards mechanisms for the children to ensure their best interest and provides for reporting of all adoptions in the country including the adoptions by relatives. Further, all adoptions under the Act have to proceed as per the Adoption Regulations framed by Central Adoption Resource Authority and notified by Government of India.

Adoption Regulations, 2017: CARA has framed the Adoption Regulations, 2017, as mandated under section 68 (c) of the JJ Act, 2015, which is effective from 16th January, 2017 and has replace the Adoption Guidelines, 2015. The Adoption Regulations have been framed keeping in mind the issues and challenges faced by CARA and other stakeholders including the Adoption Agencies and Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs). This will further strengthen the adoption programme in the country by streamlining the adoption process. Transparency, early deinstitutionalization of children, informed choice for the parents, ethical practices and strictly defined timelines in the adoption process are the salient aspects of the Adoption Regulations. Important changes incorporated in the Adoption Regulations, 2017 are enumerated underneath:-

- i. Procedures related to adoption by relatives both within the country and abroad have been defined in the Regulations;

- ii. Procedure related to adoption of step-children;
- iii. Validity of Home Study Report has been increased from two to three years;
- iv. The time period available to the domestic PAPs for matching and acceptance, after reserving the child referred, has been increased to twenty days from the existing fifteen days;
- v. District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) shall maintain a panel of professionally qualified or trained social workers;
- vi. There are 32 Schedules annexed to the Regulations including model adoption applications to be filed in the Court. This would considerably address delays prevalent in obtaining the Court order.

CARA shall be facilitating all adoptions under the JJ Act, 2015 through Child Adoption Resource Information and Guidance System (CARINGS) and all kinds of adoptions, including adoptions by relatives shall be reported to CARA, which would enable safeguards for all adopted children by maintaining their record and ensuring post adoption follow up.

Objective of CARA: The Central Adoption Resource Authority works for the following objectives:

- i. To ensure best interest of children;
- ii. Citizen centric approach enabling prospective adoptive parents (PAPs) to take informed decision;
- iii. Online registration;
- iv. Referral (based on seniority);
- v. Online reservation and matching system and eliminating offline matching for transparency;
- vi. The new Child Adoption Resource Information and Guidance System (CARINGS) has leveraged technology for bringing greater transparency in the adoption process and also minimize delays in the adoption process through e-governance.

Organizational Structure: CARA is headed by CEO and has a sanctioned strength of 37 officers and staff altogether. The Authority has a Steering Committee with the following members as defined in the JJ Act, 2015:

- i. Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, Chairperson - Ex-officio;

- ii. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, dealing with Authority - Ex-officio;
- iii. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, dealing with Finance - Ex-officio;
- iv. One member from a State Adoption Resource Agency;
- v. Two members from Specialized Adoption Agencies;
- vi. One adoptive parent;
- vii. One adoptee;
- viii. One advocate or a professor having at least ten years of experience in family law;
- ix. Member-Secretary, who shall also be Chief Executive Officer of the Organization.

The CARA has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 6.98 crores against the plan outlay of Rs. 9.00 crores for the year 2018-19.

Other Programmes and Activities

Information Technology

The Ministry is using Information Technology extensively for implementation of e-Governance in several schemes and initiatives. A brief description of some of the programmes introduced & latest development during the year 2018-19 by the Ministry are follows:

e-Office: <https://mwcd.eoffice.gov.in>

The Ministry has fully implemented e-Office Premium products and successfully migrated to paperless office concept for which the Ministry has been graded as Platinum Ministry by Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DAR&PG). MWCD tops the list in terms of number of -e-files and percentage of e-files (100%) among all Ministries with zero physical file. More than 49000 number of e-files have been created in the Ministry.

SHe-Box

SHe-Box is an online Complaint Management System for lodging complaints related to sexual harassment at workplace. Any women working or visiting any office of Central Government (Central Ministries, Departments, Public Sector Undertakings, Autonomous Bodies and Institutions, etc.) can file complaint related to sexual harassment at workplace through the SHe-Box available at the URL www.shebox.nic.in.

PMMVY-CAS Portal

Under Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, Rupees 5000/- is transferred directly to the account of eligible beneficiaries through PMMVY-CAS portal. It is accessible to functionaries at Block, District, State and National level for implementation and monitoring of the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY). The portal is available at <https://pmmvy-cas.nic.in>.

ICDS-CAS

ICDS Common application Software helps Child Development Project Officers at Block Level, District Programme Officers (District level), State and National level Officers in real time monitoring of the activities of Anganwadi in various districts of the project States under ICDS Systems Strengthening and Nutrition Improvement Project (ISSNIP). The dashboard is accessible at <https://www.icds-cas.gov.in>

Mahila E-Haat: <https://mahilaehaat-rmk.gov.in>

The Ministry of Women & Child Development launched “Mahila E-Haat”, a unique direct online digital marketing platform for women entrepreneurs/SHGs/NGOs in March 2016. This can be a game changer initiative as it can become a catalyst in strengthening women entrepreneurship and financial inclusion. The USP of Mahila E-Haat is facilitating direct contact between the vendor and buyer. It is easy to access as the entire business of E-Haat can be handled through a mobile.

BBBP Campaign

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign focuses on challenging mindsets and deep-rooted patriarchy in the societal system, strict enforcement of PC&PNDT Act, advancing education of the girl child: focus is on issues of women empowerment on a life cycle continuum. BBBP scheme is implemented through the office of Collectors/DMs/DCs in the Districts and multi-media advocacy outreach through authorized media agencies. YouTube Channel for Beti Bachao Beti Padhao is available at <https://www.youtube.com/user/BetiBachaoBetiPadhao>, providing access to motivational video on BBBP.

Information, Education and communication (IEC)

The vision of the Ministry is to Empower Women and Nurture Children. To serve as a catalyst to spread awareness among general public on issues and rights concerning women and children, the Ministry adopted a multi-pronged media approach. To inform the citizens about our policies and programmes, the Ministry extensively used print, electronic and social media, and also disseminated information through outdoor promotion and publication of manuals and pertinent booklets. During fiscal 2018-19, against a budget allocation of Rs. 100 crore, an expenditure of Rs. 52.25 crore was incurred on various media activities of the Ministry till November.

Implementation of DBT in the Ministry of Women & Child Development

With the aim of reforming Government delivery system by re-engineering the existing process in welfare schemes for simpler and faster flow of benefits and services and to ensure accurate targeting of the beneficiaries, de-duplication and reduction of fraud, Government of India has started Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) using Aadhaar as the primary identifier of beneficiaries in its schemes.

Reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Classes/persons with disabilities etc.

Reservation Policy of the Government of India in the services is being followed in the Ministry and the organizations under its control. As a cadre authority, the Ministry has duly reported the reserved vacancies to Department of Personnel & Training. The attached office i.e. Food and Nutrition Board and all the autonomous bodies under Ministry of Women and Child Development are advised to fill up the vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Classes and Persons with Disabilities by making special efforts.

Progressive Use of Hindi

During the period under report, the Ministry continued its efforts towards the maximum use of Hindi in official work. Effective implementation of the Official Language Act, 1963 and Official Language Rules, 1976 was ensured. All the Computers (PCs) in the Ministry are equipped with bilingual Unicode facility. Efforts are being made to promote the use of Hindi in the correspondence and noting. The quarterly progress reports for the progressive use of Hindi related to the Ministry of WCD and its subordinate offices were reviewed and sent regularly to the Department of Official Language. All the officers and the employees of the Ministry have working knowledge of Hindi.

National Conference of States/UTs Ministers In-Charge of Women and Child Development

The Ministry of Women and Child Development organized the National Conference of States/UTs Ministers in-charge of Women and Child Development on 17.07.2018 at Le Meridien under the Chairpersonship of Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development. Dr. Virendra Kumar, Hon'ble Minister of State and thirteen other States/UTs Ministers, and Secretaries participated in the National Conference.

Women of India Festival

The 'Women of India Festival' is organised annually by the Ministry with the aim to encourage women entrepreneurs and farmers, and also actively promote organic products ranging from food and fabric to wellness and personal care. 'Women of India Festival 2018' was held from 26th October to 4th November, 2018, at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi. The festival provided a national platform to nearly 570 participants from the remotest corners of the country at 287 stalls.

Subject allocated to the Ministry of Women and Child Development¹
(Mahila Aur Bal Vikas Mantralaya)

1. Welfare of the family.
2. Women and Child welfare and co-ordination of activities of other Ministries and Organizations in connection with this subject.
3. Reference from the United Nations Organizations relating to traffic in women and children.
4. Care of pre-school children including pre-primary education².
5. National Nutrition Policy, National Plan of Action for Nutrition and National Nutrition Mission.
6. Charitable and religious endowments pertaining to subjects allocated to this Department.
7. Promotion and development of voluntary effort on subjects allocated to this Department.
8. Implementation of-
 - a) The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (as amended upto 1986);
 - b) The Indecent Representation of Women (Prevention) Act, 1986 (60 of 1986);
 - c) The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 (as amended upto 1986);
 - d) The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987 (3 of 1988), excluding the administration of criminal justice in regard to offences under these Acts.
9. Implementation of the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Food (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1992 (41 of 1992).
10. Coordination of activities and programmes of Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE).
11. Planning, Research, Evaluation, Monitoring, Project Formulations, Statistics and Training relating to the welfare and development of women and Children, including development of gender sensitive data base.
12. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).
13. Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB)
14. National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD).
15. Food and Nutrition Board.
16. i. Development and popularization of subsidiary and protective foods.
ii. Nutrition extension.
17. Women's Empowerment and Gender Equity.

¹ Inserted as Ministry vide Amendment series no.283 dated 16.02.2006 (earlier was Department under Ministry of HRD)

² Inserted vide Amendment series no.281 dated 01.09.2005

18. National Commission for Women.
19. Rashtriya Mahila Kosh.
20. Juvenile delinquency and vagrancy.
21. Probation of Juvenile offenders.
22. Issues relating to adoption, Central Adoption Resource Authority and Child Help Line (ChildLine).
23. The Children Act, 1960 (60 of 1960).
24. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (56 of 2000).
25. The Child Marriage- Restraint Act, 1929 (19 of 1929).
26. Institutional and non-institutional services for the care and development of children in need including orphans and orphanages³.

³ Inserted vide Amendment series no.286 dated 01.06.2006

Annexure II

**Plan Schemes Outlays (Budget Estimates and Revised Estimates) for the Programmes
/ Schemes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development for the year 2018-19**

SI. No.	Schemes/Programmes	B.E.	R.E.	Expenditure as on 07.01.2019
A.	PLAN SCHEMES			
Integrated Child Development Services				
1	Aganwadi Services	16334.88	17890.19	13746.28
2	National Nutrition Mission (including ISSNIP)			
	a) Programme Component	2928.70	2990.00	1983.36
	b) EAP Component	71.30	71.30	71.29
3	Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana	2400.00	1200.00	430.67
4	Scheme for Adolescent Girls	500.00	250.00	162.19
5	National Creche Scheme	128.39	30.00	0.37
6	Child Protection Scheme	725.00	925.00	505.82
7	Working children in need of care and Protection	0.01	0.01	0.00
	TOTAL UMBRELLA ICDS	23088.28	23356.50	16899.98
Mission for Empowerment of Women				
8	Mahila Shakti Kendra	267.30	115.00	56.91
9	Swadhar Greh	95.00	50.00	5.59
10	Support to Training & Employment Programme (STEP)	5.00	4.50	1.76
11	Ujjawala	50.00	20.00	5.27
12	Working Women Hostels	60.00	52.00	18.17
13	Home for Widows	0.00	8.00	1.57
14	Gender Budgeting & Research, Publication & Monitoring	8.28	6.65	4.37
15	Information, Mass Media and Publication	100.00	120.00	63.16
16	Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Campaign	280.00	280.00	164.42
17	Women's Helpline	28.80	28.80	7.17
18	One step Centre	105.10	302.80	75.58
19	Mahila Police Volunteers	7.01	7.01	0.00
20	Other Schemes funded from Nirbhaya Fund	359.09	161.39	1.94
21	Transfer to Nirbhaya Fund	500.00	500.00	0.00
22	Amount met from Nirbhaya Fund	-500.00	-500.00	0.00
	Total-Mission for Empowerment of Women	1365.58	1156.15	405.91
	Total Plan Schemes	24453.86	24512.65	17305.89

B.	NON SCHEMES			
1	Secretariat	43.62	44.42	34.85
2	Food and Nutrition Board	14.00	13.20	10.67
3	National Awards	1.00	1.00	1.00
4	Contribution to UNICEF	5.60	5.60	5.60
	Total Secretariat Social Services	64.22	64.22	51.12
	Autonomous Bodies			
1	National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)	59.41	59.41	37.58
2	Central Resource Adoption Agency (CARA)	9.00	9.00	6.98
3	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)	18.00	17.83	11.11
4	National Commission for Women (NCW)	24.00	24.00	18.06
5	Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB)	71.50	71.50	43.80
6	Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)	.01	.01	0.00
	Total Autonomous Bodies	181.92	181.75	131.55
	Total Non-Schemes	246.14	245.97	182.67
	Total(Schemes + Non-Schemes)	24700.00	24758.62	17488.56



नए समाज की ओर
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