



Child Protection and Welfare



Towards a New Dawn

Child Protection and Welfare

4.1 Children constitute 39% of the population of India (Census 2011). The Constitution of India places highest priority to the safety and well-being of children. 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.

I. LAWS, POLICY AND PROGRAMMES FOR CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

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

4.2 The Government has adopted a new National Policy for Children (NPC, 2013 on 26th April, 2013). The Policy

reaffirms the Government's commitment to the realization of 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.

4.3 The Policy lays down the guiding principles that must be respected by the National, State and Local Governments in their actions and initiatives affecting children. The Policy has identified survival, health, nutrition, education, development, protection and participation as the undeniable rights of every child, and has also declared these as key priority areas.

4.4 The National Plan of Action for children, 2016 has been released. As children's needs are multispectral, interconnected and require collected 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.

4.5 It has also identified emerging and new areas of concern related to development and

protection of children. The stakeholders are expected to strategise and initiate programmes to meet these emerging concerns and vulnerabilities. The plan has also mapped district-wise vulnerabilities children face and this data is expected to feed into policies and programmes.

B. National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)

4.6 The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), a statutory body, was set up in March 2007 under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005, an Act of Parliament (December, 2005). The Commission's mandate is to ensure that all Laws, Policies, Programmes and Administrative Mechanisms are in consonance with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (For more details on the NCPCR, please refer to Chapter-13 of the report).

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

4.7 To deal with child abuse cases, the Government has brought in a special law such as "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 any 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 the establishment of Special Courts for trial of offences under the Act, 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. The National Conference on effective implementation of the provision of POCSO Act, 2012 was held in New Delhi on 14th January, 2016.

4.8 An online complaint box for reporting child sexual abuse, the POCSO e-Box was launched by the Minister for Women and Child Development, Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi in New Delhi on 26.8.2016. Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (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.

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

4.9 The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, (JJ Act) adopted in 2000 has been repealed and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 has been notified on 1st January, 2015 which has come into effect from 15th January, 2015. Also, the Central Model Juvenile Justice Rules, 2016 have come into effect. Review of Child Care Institutions has been conducted by the Ministry with Support from NCPCR and CIF whereby all the registered and unregistered CCIs have been identified. All the adoptable children staying in these

CCIs have also been identified and the data of such children has been shared with the State Government to initiate the process of adoption.

E. National Consultations:

4.10 The Ministry held a National Consultation on issue of Child Sexual Abuse in January, 2017 and National consultation on Draft Implementing Legislation for Accession to Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, 1980 in February, 2017.

II. INTEGRATED CHILD PROTECTION SCHEME (ICPS)

4.11 In order to provide financial support to State Governments and UT Administrations for effective implementation of the JJ Act, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely the "Integrated Child Protection Scheme" now Child Protection Scheme was introduced in 2009. ICPS aims to create a safety net of dedicated structures, services and personnel for protection of children, especially those in difficult circumstances. The objective is to contribute to improvement in the well being of children in difficult circumstances, as well as to the reduction of vulnerabilities to situations and actions that lead to abuse, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children from their families.

4.12 Continuation of the ICPS in the XII Plan has been extended up to 30.11.2018 at the existing terms and conditions subject to following modification:

- i. The maintenance grant for children of Rs. 2000/- has been increased by 8% annually in Homes, Open

Shelters and SAAs in view of the increase in inflation rate;

- ii. Sitting allowance of CWC and JJB members has been enhanced from Rs.1000/- to Rs.1500/- in accordance with new JJ Rules, 2016;
- iii. Increase in programmatic allocation for CIF Head office and Four Regional Centres by Rs.9.70 crore for protection services of CHILDLINE to address expansion and emerging protection needs.

The budget allocation for the year 2017 -18 under ICPS is Rs.648 crore. An amount of Rs.417.26 crore has been released till 26th December, 2017.

4.13 **Service Delivery Structures:** The scheme provides for dedicated structures to ensure that proper focus is maintained for the protection of children at national, state and district level and quality of services is up to the mark. The service delivery structures namely State Child Protection Societies have been constituted in 35 States/UTs, State Adoption Resource Agencies in 34 States/ UTs and District Child Protection Units in 695 Districts of the country.

4.14 Care, Protection and Rehabilitation Services

4.14.1 The Scheme provides financial support to State Governments/UT Administrations for running services for children either by themselves or through suitable NGOs. These services include (a) Homes of various types for children; (b) Emergency Outreach services through Childline; (c) Open Shelters for children in need of care and protection in urban and semi urban areas; (d) Family Based Non-Institutional Care through Sponsorship, Foster Care and Adoptions.

4.14.2 In 2017-18, i.e. upto 26.12.2017 under the Scheme, 354 Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs) and 1596 Homes of various types have been funded. These provide comprehensive rehabilitation services to children including food, clothing, day and night shelter, education, medical facilities, etc. to 88,908 children. For improving the quality of infrastructure in the Homes, assistance has been provided this year for upgradation of 22 Homes. Grants for construction of 05 new Homes have been

released for uncovered areas. Further 295 open shelters have also been funded under ICPS which provide inter alia bridge education, vocational training, food, etc. to children living on the streets.

4.15 **Statutory Support Services:** Financial assistance under the Scheme is also provided for setting up of statutory bodies under the JJ Act namely, (a) Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) and Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs). As reported by State Governments/UT Administrations, 710 CWCs and 701 JJBs have so far been set up across the country.

4.16 Status of Implementation of Integrated Child Protection Scheme [ICPS]

Year	No. of States that have signed MOUs	Budget Allocation (Rs. in Cr.)		Amount sanctioned (Rs. in Cr.)	Number of Beneficiaries
		BE	RE		
2009-10	17	60.00	50.00	42.63	36,780
2010-11	34	300.00	100.00	115.13	92,379
2011-12	34	270.00	180.00	177.54	50,118
2012-13	34	400.00	273.20	253.84	75,052
2013-14	35	300.00	270.00	265.78	74,983
2014-15	36	400.00	450.00	448.43	91,769
2015-16	36	402.23	450.00	497.30	76,634
2016-17	36	400.00	610.00	576.96	87,119
2017-18	36	648.00	-	417.27	

4.17 **Utilization of Budget:** In the financial year, 2017-18 up to December 2017, proposals of 34 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 2017-18, 417.27 crores have been sanctioned and released upto 26.12.2017 under the Scheme as against the previous year's expenditure of 576.96 crores. State-wise details of expenditure are at Annexure-XXI.

4.18 Sensitization of State Functionaries: NIPCCD is the nodal agency for trainings and capacity building of functionaries under the ICPS. Efforts have been made this year to involve the States in imparting trainings to the ICPS functionaries including the members of two statutory bodies set up under the JJ Act, 2015, the CWCs and JJBs. More than 2853 functionaries under ICPS at the State and District levels have been trained during 2016-17.

4.19 TrackChild: The Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) being implemented since 2009-10 for the protection of children also envisaged for creating a mechanism for tracking 'missing' and 'found' children under ICPS and Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act). National Informatics Centre (NIC) was entrusted to develop a software to track missing children and to monitor the progress of children residing and availing various services in different Child Care Institutions (CCIs) for children under ICPS and JJ Act. TrackChild portal has been functional since 2012.

4.19.1 It is a networking and interactive platform for various Stake holders such as Police, Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs), Child Care Institutions (CCIs), Dept. of WCD, National Crimes Records Bureau (NCRB), NGOs and Citizens, etc. During the year continuous refresher training programmes were organised for various stake holders to train them how to use TrackChild system. A revised and user friendly version i.e. 2.0 TrackChild was launched for better connectivity and with enhanced features

such as Mobile Application during 2015-16. The URL of TrackChild is www.trackthemissingchild.gov.in

4.19.2 As on 22.12.2017, out of 17009 Police stations, 11532 are making entries of missing/recovered children in TrackChild. Out of 710 CWCs, 451 are updating records of children and out of 701 JJBs, 369 are entering data of children on TrackChild portal. Out of 5930 CCIs, 4167 are making entries of children in their care. Since 2012, 1,73,441 children have been matched through the system. 11532 Police stations have entered the information of 2,79,842 missing children.

4.20 Khoya-Paya: In the case of missing child, information is extremely important, and so is speed. Therefore, it was felt that the use of social media can play a pivotal role in searching missing children. The Ministry of Women and Child Development launched Khoya-Paya on 2nd June, 2015. Khoya-Paya is an enabling platform, where citizens can report missing children as well as sightings of their whereabouts without losing much time. Found children can also be reported. Any citizen can register on Khoya-Paya by using an Indian Mobile number. Objectives of Khoya-Paya are as follows:-

- Speedy reporting of missing and found children.
- Locating missing children through site based interaction.
- Citizens encouraged to provide information of sightings of abandoned, lost children and those accompanied by suspicious persons.
- Citizens can upload information on found children.

Total Cases Reported on Khoya-Paya from 2.6.2015 to 22.12.2017	
Total number of registered users	8447
Total Mobile App Downloaded by Citizens/Parents	5373
Total Missing/Sighted cases published on the portal	9985
Number of total missing cases reported	1599
i. Number of cases published	1186
ii. Number of cases rejected	413
Number of total sighted children cases reported	9027
i. Number of cases published	8799
ii. Number of cases rejected	228
Total Missing/Sighted cases closed on the portal	4709

4.20.1 As per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, in the matter of WP (C) 75/2012 BachpanBachaoAndolan vs. Union of India and Others, Khoya-Paya has been integrated as a module under the citizen corner of TrackChild portal for reporting of missing and found children. Mobile Application of Khoya-Paya is also available. A brief report of the cases reported on Khoya-Paya is as follows:

4.21 **Childline Services:** Under ICPS, the Ministry has undertaken expansion of

the service to other parts of the country, with the final objective of covering all the districts in the XII Five Year Plan period. In the year 2016-17, Rs. 63.15 crore has been sanctioned to CIF for running the service. Childline is working in 412 locations as indicated at Annexure XXII. CIF is partnering with 660 organizations for running these Childline projects in 35 States/UTs. For 2017-18, there is a proposed expansion plan to take the services to another 88 locations. MWCD has approved 7 out of these 88 locations till date.

Status of Childline Services

Year	No. of Cities/Districts Covered	No. of Partner Organisations	Grants Sanctioned (Rs. in Crores)
2009-10	83	188	9.33
2010-11	125	298	17.89
2011-12	205	449	23.16
2012-13	269	547	30.06
2013-14	278	544	30.15
2014-15	283	543	53.62
2015-16	366	607	98.28
2016-17	412	674	63.15
2017-18	412	660	99.13

4.21.1 Between the period April, 2017 to November 2017, Childline has received more than 78 lakh calls. Out of this, 1.53 lakh calls have been for shelter, medical assistance, protection from abuse, emotional support and guidance, information regarding referral services and missing children.

I. CELEBRATION OF CHILDREN WEEK

4.22 Government of India celebrated the child rights week by hosting an inter-CCI festival, "Hausla 2017" for the children who reside in Childcare Institutions (CCIs) between 16th-20th November, 2017. The commemoration of the festival provided an occasion to showcase the talents of children from child care institutions from all over India and provide them with a space to express their dreams and aspiration. Approximately 1000 children from various CCIs across the country participated in the weeklong festival. The following events are organized in the event:

- A. Adoption Workshop on 15th November, 2017:** The workshop was organised by CARA to discuss the issues concerning adoption in India. All stakeholders ranging from adoptee parents to SAAs, as well as academicians, members of judiciary and others participated in the workshop.
- B. Bal Sansad on 16th November, 2017:** The National Policy for Children 2013 and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 endorse the rights of the

children to participate in issues that affect them and express their views. Keeping the above in mind, a Bal Sansad was organized on 16th November, 2017 at CSOI where children in the age group of 14-18 years from CCIs from all States/ UTs participated.

- C. Painting Competition on 17th November, 2017:** A national painting competition was organized on 17th November, 2017 for CCI children selected by the States (36). Children painted on various themes such as 'what makes me happy', 'As you like it', etc.
- D. Baal Utsav on 18th November, 2017:** A children's fair was organised by NCPCR for the children of CCI. Along with fun, food and frolic, children got an opportunity to showcase their talent during the cultural performances. A large number of CCI children from Delhi as well as outstation teams participated in the event.
- E. Athletics Meet, Chess Competition and Football Matches on 19th-20th November, 2017:** Athletics meet (100 meters race, 100 x 4 meter relay race, long jump, high jump), chess competition and football matches for boys and girls from CCIs were organized at Tyagaraj Stadium, New Delhi. 22 state teams participated in the sports meet.
- F. Speech Writing:** All States/UTs were requested to hold speech writing competitions within children of CCIs. Out of these, the first three winning

speeches were forwarded to the Ministry, which were published as a compilation of speeches in a booklet with the participation of UNICEF

G. The Concluding Ceremony:

The week-long celebration was culminated through the concluding ceremony organized on 20th November (evening) at Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi where the compilation of speeches, guidelines of UNNATI scheme and Team award were distributed and cultural programme were performed by children of CCIs.

II. GIRL CHILD

4.23 BETI BACHAO BETI PADHAO :

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme (Celebrate Girl Child, Enable her Education) was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 22nd January, 2015 at Panipat, Haryana as a comprehensive programme to address the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of disempowerment 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. The present Government, recognizing the challenge of declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) as a telling indicator of gender discrimination towards girl child requiring immediate attention and action, has launched BBBP scheme in 2015.

4.24 Currently, the scheme is being implemented as a tri-ministerial convergent effort of Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health & Family Welfare and Human Resource

Development with focus on awareness and advocacy campaign using 360 degree approach, multi-sectoral action in select 161 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. At the central level, Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal ministry for the programme. At the state level, Chief Secretaries head the State Task Force (STF) with representation of Department of WCD, Health and Education to monitor the implementation of the scheme. The District Collectors/Deputy Commissioners (DCs) head the District Task Force (DTF) and coordinate action of all departments for implementation of BBBP at the District level.

4.25 The District Collectors/Deputy Commissioners (DCs) lead and coordinate action of all departments for implementation of BBBP at the District level. 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 in the districts has 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 GuddiGudda Boards, birth registration, encouraging celebration of girl child, challenging son-centric rituals and reversing the social norms, re-enrolment drives for getting girls back to schools and campaigns to prevent child marriage. Some of these

district/state level initiatives that are driving winds of change for girls are summarized as below:

4.26 Sikar district, Rajasthan has catalyzed the potential of local champions on BBBP from diverse fields of sports, academics, writers, lawyers, students, etc. Selected by the District Administration through a rigorous process and felicitated publicly as role models, these local champions have been entrusted to work in each block to sensitize the community about importance of gender equality as well as spreading the message of BBBP. The local champions are mobilizing youth from gram panchayats and villages to work as community volunteers under BBBP. Another initiative worth a mention is "Aao School Chalein" -an enrollment campaign through door to door mobilization to ensure 100% enrolment of girls in schools.

4.27 In Muktasar district, Punjab, Pink cards have been introduced for the parents having daughters (maximum of two) from 20 villages (having low child sex ratio). A special Pink Cabin is set up in Suvidha Kendra (Facilitation Centre) by the District Administration, where Pink Card holders can avail benefit of Birth Registration, Marriage Registration, Driving License, etc.

4.28 In Sirsa District, Haryana, a Career Counselling Guide has been launched to educate and empower school going girls of 9th-12th Standard with multiple career options and to arrest drop out. Training has also been imparted on Career Counselling to teachers, CDPOs, supervisors and anganwadi workers.

4.29 In Jammu & Kashmir, Samba district has set up a special BBBP Fund with voluntary contributions from district employees, industries, business houses and citizens to help destitute and orphan girls to pursue their studies or marriage. Ladli Beti Diwas is celebrated on the 7th of every month. Self-Defence trainings are being imparted to 3550 girls from Government Schools as part of convergence with Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan. Skill Development Trainings to girls is also being provided through NSDC registered organization and Horticulture Office. Udhampur district has initiated "Noor Jeevanka Betiyan" as a journey towards bringing positive change in the society towards girls. Multitude of activities on various themes through week long celebration under BBBP Abhiyan were organized in different panchayats, schools, colleges, institutions, etc. Role of every officer was assigned.

4.30 Kurukshetra district, Haryana has started "My Aim My Target Campaign", a daylong orientation camp was held for 775 academically bright girls from Arts, Commerce, Medical and Non-medical streams. The girls were given an opportunity to interact with various district level officers including DC, Addl. DC, Judicial Magistrate, SDM, BDPO, Doctors, Police Officers and other Senior Officers from different streams.

4.31 Kanya Sambardhana Utsav is one of the initiatives undertaken by Nayagarh district, Odisha to felicitate the girl children (Kanya) with a view to create awareness about the importance of girl child. The district administration has felicitated more than 10,560 girls in the district through this initiative. Similarly, Ahmednagar district,

Maharashtra has initiated KanyaRatna Utsav Programme in 14 blocks of the district.

4.32 Other initiatives undertaken are installing digital GuddiGudda Display Boards in offices and public places in Jalgaon district, Maharashtra; multi-sectoral interventions by Cuddalore district, Tamil Nadu which include dedicating special day on value of girl child, linking Sukanya Samriddhi accounts with birth of girl child and felicitating parents, plantation drives symbolizing nurturing and care for girl child, prevention of child marriages; cash reward of Rs. 1 lakh for whistle blowers informing about illegal sex selection announced by Haryana; Shauryadals and Har Ghar Dastak initiative in Madhya Pradesh, holding Special Gram Sabhas and Mahila Sabhas on child sex ratio in BBBP districts of Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Tripura; local champions and brand ambassadors identified in Gomati district, Tripura, Jhunjhunu district, Rajasthan; "Ambassador of Girl Child" launched by Nagaland; recognizing girl achievers in the community in Sikkim, Andhra Pradesh and Tripura.

4.33 In order to influence National and mainstream discourse in favour of girls and women and to bring visibility to BBBP, "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Week- the Daughters of New India" was celebrated by all 160 districts from 9th October-14th October, 2017. The week was observed on the occasion of International Girl Child Day (i.e. 11th October) to create Value of Girl Child and reinforce the importance of

educating her. Further, in the backdrop of BBBP, a panel discussion on the Role of Sports in the Empowerment of Girls was held on 11th October, 2017 to celebrate International Day of the Girl Child in New Delhi. A power-packed sports team comprising of sports legends, icons and BBBP Champions participated in the panel discussion, initiated by the Hon'ble Minister of Women and Child Development, Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi.

4.34 The programme will be completing 3 years shortly and in this short duration, BBBP has been well-received and favourable trends are visible in many of the districts. The latest reports as per 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.

4.35 Looking at the encouraging results of implementation in 161 districts and magnitude/criticality of the problem and its spread across the country, it has been realized that no district can be left out of BBBP ambit if a real dent is to be made towards improvement in overall CSR. Accordingly, the 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. Expansion under BBBP has been approved based on the successful implementation in 161 districts. Out of 640 districts, BBBP is currently getting implemented in 161 districts. The expansion would include multi-sectoral

intervention in 244 districts in addition to existing 161 districts. 235 districts are to be covered through Alert District Media, Advocacy and Outreach, thus covering all

the 640 districts (as per census 2011) of the country to have a deeper positive impact on Child Sex Ratio.



Rangoli in Exhibition at Hisar, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao



Jhanki at District Karnal, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao



Jhanki at District Hissar, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao



Signature Campaign under BBBP, MLA Sohna Sh. Tej Pal Tanwar and WCDPO Gurugram



Exhibition on Geeta Jayanti at Sirsa Visited by Minister of Employment, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini, and ADC Dr. Nagpal Sirsa



Celebration of Girl Child Birthday, WCDPO Ambala, Smt. Aaru Vashisht

CELEBRATION OF BETI BACHAO BETI PADHAO WEEK



Stakeholders Consultation



Tree Plantation



Signature Campaign



Awareness Rally on Scooties Flagging off by ADC, Hisar



Awareness Rally Participation by 600
Anganwadi Workers-Flagging off by DC, Jhajjar



Kuan Pujan



Poster Making at School Level



Kuan Pujan Celebrations under BBBP





GIRL CHILD BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION





Glimpse of BBBP Activities in the Year 2017-18

3000 Children participated in the formation of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao logo at Raigarh, Chhattisgarh during the BBBP Week celebration.





A New Ship Gets Launched in Andaman Carrying the Message of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao through the Deep Seas



Awareness Programme on BBBP organized by Song and Drama Division at Dist. Dausa, Rajasthan



Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme being reviewed by Sh. K. Moses Chalai, Joint Secretary, MWCD with States and District Officials at New Delhi



In Presence of Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, Hon'ble Minister, MWCD, an All-Women Cycle Rally was led by Smt. Rekha Arya, MoS, WCD Uttarakhand to promote Beti Bachao Beti Padhao



On the Occasion of International Day of Girl Child (11th Oct, 2017), a Panel Discussion was held with Sports Legends and BBBP Local Champion in presence of Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, Hon'ble Minister, MWCD, at New Delhi



Infant Girls & their Mothers Honoured at the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Week Celebration Organised by UT Admn., Dadra & Nagar Haveli



Innovative Initiative by District Administration Udhampur, Jammu & Kashmir by Hoisting of a Flag with Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Logo in the BBBP Programme



Dr. Virendra Kumar, Hon'ble MoS, WCD, at an Awareness Programme on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao in Lakshadweep



Dr. Virendra Kumar, Hon'ble MoS, WCD, inaugurates the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Week in New Delhi



Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, Hon'ble Minister, WCD, Reviewing Implementation of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao During Her Visit to Hyderabad, Telangana



Sh. Rakesh Srivastava, Secretary, MWCD Chaired the 3rd National Task Force Meeting to Review the Progress of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao at New Delhi on 24th October, 2017



Sh. M.L. Khattar, Chief Minister, Haryana, Signed a Pledge for Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Campaign in Haryana Swarna Jayanti Utsav at Bhim Stadium, Bhiwani.



Sh. Rakesh Srivastava, Secretary, MWCD briefing the Press about Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Week Celebrations during Press Conference at New Delhi.



Telangana Celebrates "Bathukamma- Festival of Flowers" with the Theme of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

V. CONFERMENT OF AWARDS

The Government of India instituted three awards namely; (i) National Child Awards for Exceptional Achievement, (ii) National Award for Child Welfare and, (iii) Rajiv Gandhi Manav Seva Award.

A. National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement

4.36 The Award was instituted in 1996 to give recognition to children with exceptional abilities who have outstanding achievements in various fields. The guidelines were revised in April, 2016. These awards are given for outstanding achievements in the fields including (i) Innovation in any field including design, (ii) Scholastic achievements (e.g. first position in mathematics in two successive years on a National Level), (iii) Sports, (iv) Arts, (v) Culture, (vi) Social Service, (vii) Music, (viii) Any other field which deserve recognition as per the decision of the Central Selection Committee. Children residing in India of or above the age of 5 years and not exceeding 18 years (as on 31st July of respective years) are eligible. The Award consist of: (a) One Gold Medal, books voucher of Rs. 10,000/- and a cash prize of Rs. 20,000/-, (b) Thirty Five Silver Medals, books vouchers of Rs. 3,000/- and a cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- for each awardees.

4.37 The Awards for the year 2017 were presented by the Hon'ble President of India at a function organized on 14th November, 2017 at Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi. This year one child was awarded with gold medal and 15 children were awarded with silver medal. The list of Awardees is attached at Annexure XXIII.

B. National Award for Child Welfare

4.38 The Award was instituted in 1979 to honour five institutions and three individuals for their outstanding performance in the field of Child Welfare. The National Award for Child Welfare includes a cash prize of Rs. 3 lakh and a certificate for each institution and Rs. 1 lakh and a scroll for each individual. The Awards for the year 2016 were presented by the Hon'ble President of India at a function organized on 14th November, 2017 at Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi. The list of awardees is attached at Annexure XXIV.

C. Rajiv Gandhi Manav Seva Award

4.39 The Award was instituted in 1994 to honour individuals who made outstanding contribution towards service for children. The Award is given to three individuals who have done outstanding work in the fields of child development, child welfare and child protection. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh, a silver plaque and a citation. The Awards for the year 2017 were presented by the Hon'ble President of India at a function organized on 14th November, 2017 at Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi. The list of awardees is attached at Annexure XXV.

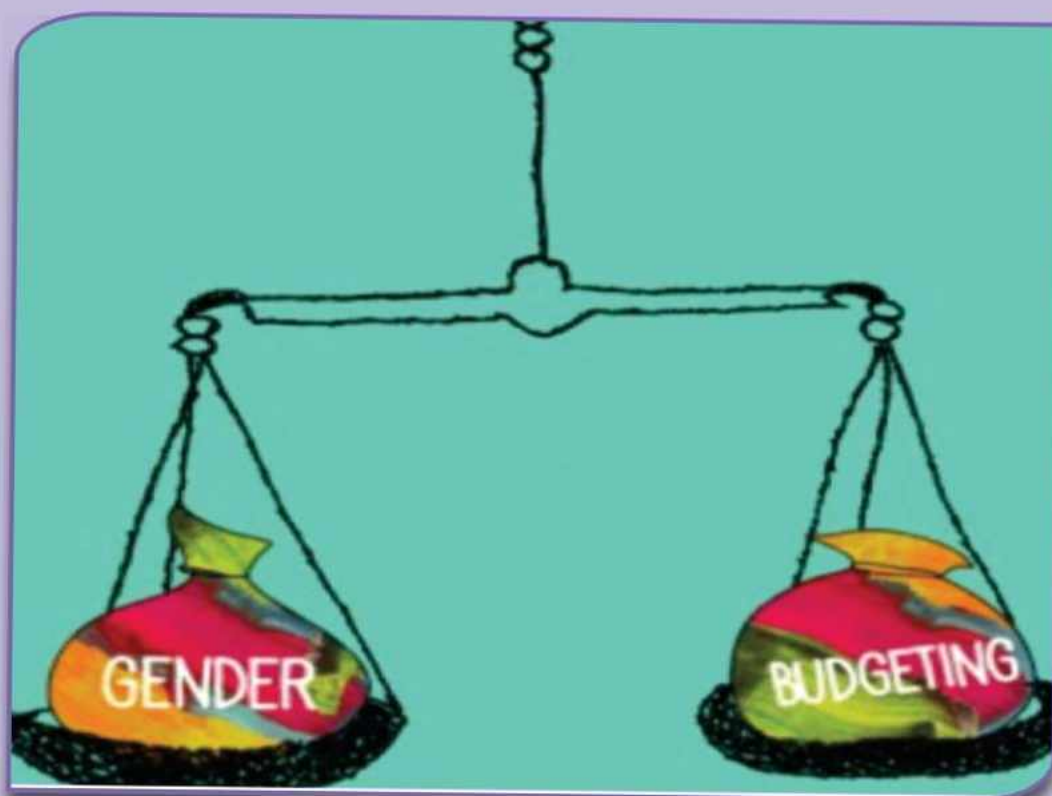
II. CHILD BUDGETING

4.40 Public expenditure meant for the development of the general population can be expected to have some benefits for children as well. However, since children comprise one of the largest disadvantaged sections of Indian Society, there is strong case for identifying the protection of public expenditure meant for addressing the needs of children in particular. This requires the segregation of schemes meant specifically for addressing the needs of children, from other development schemes. The total magnitude of budget outlays on child specific schemes is referred to as the

“Child Budget” is not a separate budget but a part of the total government budget.

4.41 A statement of 'Child Budgeting' was introduced in the Union Budget for 2008-09 (i.e. Budget Provisions for Schemes for the Welfare of Children, State 22, Expenditure Budget Vol. I, Union Budget 2008-09). This statement has been carried over in subsequent Union Budgets, and captures all child specific schemes in the Union Budget. In 2008-09, when the 'Child Budgeting' statement was introduced in the Union Budget, the 'Demands for Grants' with child specific schemes included those of the Ministries of

Women and Child Development, Human Resource Development, Health and Family Welfare, Labour and Employment, Social Justice and Empowerment, Tribal Affairs, Minority Affairs and Youth Affairs and Sports. The 'Child Budgeting' statement now covers 18 'Demands for Grants' (including Union Ministries/ Departments of Atomic Energy, Industrial Policy and Promotion, Posts, Telecommunication and Information and Broadcasting among others) marking a significant increase from an initial eight 'Demands for Grants' in 2008-09. Further, the issue is being examined in consultation with NITI Aayog.



Gender Budgeting



Towards a New Dawn

Gender Budgeting

5.1 The national development plans (Five Year Plans) of the Government of India have aimed to ensure gender equality by addressing the concerns of men and women. It was recognized that prioritizing financial resources for programmes/schemes for women is critical for their empowerment. In view of this, the Women's Component Plan (WCP) was adopted in the Ninth Five Year Plan to identify and monitor schemes that extended benefits directly to women. It aimed to earmark clear allocations for women in the schemes run by all Ministries/Departments. It was further recognized that National planning and budget allocations impact men and women differently through the pattern of resource allocation. The way Government planning and budgets allocate resources have the potential to transform and reduce gender inequalities. There is thus, a need to make all Ministries/Departments gender sensitive and make their budgets more gender aware. Thus, Gender Budgeting (GB), as a tool for gender mainstreaming in all Government policies and programmes, was adopted by the Government of India in 2005 as a budgetary strategy at the National level.

5.2 The notion of WCP was a precursor to the adoption of Gender Budgeting, which represents a much broader

approach towards ensuring budgets and public policies to be more gender responsive. Gender Budgeting is a powerful tool for achieving gender mainstreaming so as to ensure that the benefits of development reach women as much as men. GB is not simply an accounting exercise but an ongoing process of engendering budgets at the levels of planning, policy/programme formulation, budgeting, implementation, review, and audit. By maintaining a gender perspective at all stages of planning and budgeting, GB aims at targeting and meeting women's priorities effectively.

5.3 The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) as the nodal agency for gender budgeting adopted the mission statement of 'Budgeting for Gender Equity' in 2004-05 to institutionalize GB within the Centre and across States. In 2008, a plan scheme on Gender Budgeting was launched to carry forward the institutionalization of GB from policy formulation to outcome achievement in the Centre and across States. Under this Scheme, MWCD undertakes several programmes and provides financial support to Central/State Government agencies for imparting training to different stakeholders to strengthen the process of gender budgeting. The scheme has three main focus areas:

- Advocacy and guidance to Gender Budget Cells;

- Training and capacity building of stakeholders; and
- Facilitating Gender Budget analysis and performance audit

I. CREATION AND STRENGTHENING OF INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR GENDER BUDGETING

(i) Gender Budgeting Cells/Gender Focal Points at Central Ministries/ Departments:

5.4 For effective implementation of Gender Budgeting, the Ministry of Finance in consultation with MWCD issued a Gender Budget Charter in 2007. The Charter mandated the formation of Gender Budgeting Cells (GBCs) and laid down guidelines for composition and functions of GBCs. As an institutional mechanism for gender mainstreaming, GBCs function with the objective of influencing and initiating a change in the Ministry/Department's policies, programmes in a way to promote gender equality and ensure that public resources through the Ministry budget are allocated and managed accordingly. As mandated, the GBCs should comprise of senior and middle level officers from the Plan, Policy, Coordination, Budget and Accounts Division of the Ministry/Department and headed by an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary. Currently, 57 Ministries/ Departments have set up Gender Budgeting Cells (refer Annexure XXVII).

(ii) Gender Budget Statement - Tracking Gender Budgeting Allocations

5.5 In 2007, Ministry of Finance highlighted the need for budget data to be gender sensitive by directing line Ministries to develop a Gender Budget Statement (Statement 13). The Statement 13 is a reporting mechanism of Gender Budgeting to review the programmes of Ministries/ Departments from a gender lens and is an important tool for monitoring allocations towards women specific programmes. The Gender budgetary allocations of the Government are reflected in two parts - Part A includes 100% allocation for women while Part B of the Statement includes schemes/ programmes with 30% to 99% allocation for women. In 2017-18, over 30 Ministries/ Departments and Union Territories reported on GB 13, which accounted for Rupees 1,13,326.65 crore (5.27%) of the total Union Budget (refer Annexure XXVIII).

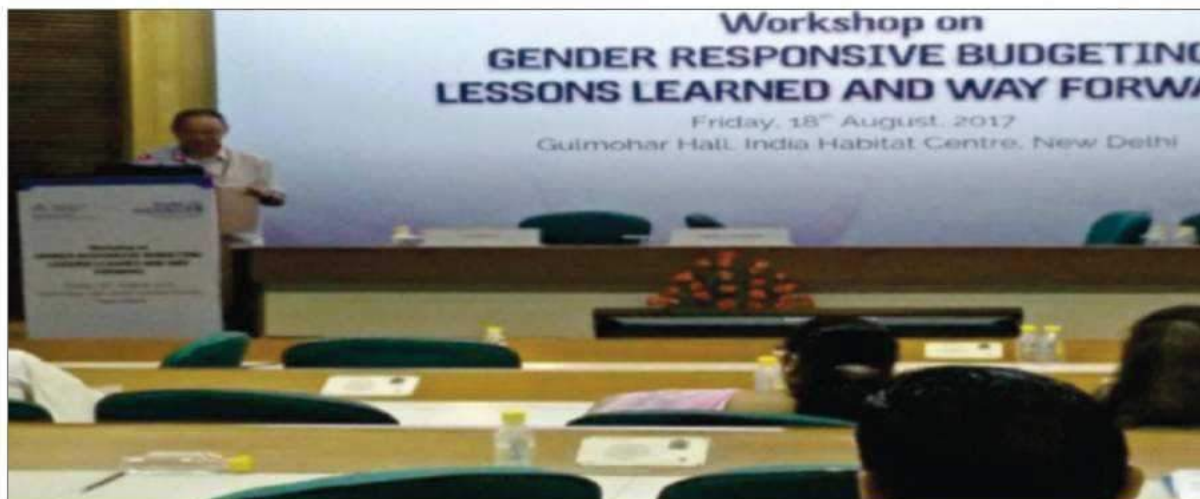
II. CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES FOR GENDER BUDGETING

Supporting GB Training Programmes/ Workshops at National and State Level

5.6 One of the key focus areas of MWCD has been strengthening internal and external capacities and building expertise of GBCs to undertake gender mainstreaming of policies/ schemes/ programmes at the National and State Level. For this, MWCD is engaged in conducting various consultative meetings and workshops and subsequently the development of resource materials. To strengthen the process of GB, MWCD has designated National Institute of Financial Management (NIFM), an autonomous Institute of the Ministry of Finance, GoI as the Nodal Centre at the Central Level. A consultative meeting on 'Gender Responsive Budgeting: Lessons Learned and Way Forward' was organized by the NIFM

and UN Women. Various officials from different Central Ministries/ Departments participated in this workshop to build a basic understanding of GB; to discuss the

initiatives taken by the Government of India; to bring forth good practices on GB; and to identify the ways of strengthening GB at National and State Level.



Mr. Moses Chalai, Joint Secretary highlighting GB initiatives by MWCD during the Workshop on Gender Responsive Budgeting: Lessons Learned and Way Forward held in August, 2017 at New Delhi

5.7 Under the Gender Budgeting scheme, inter alia, the Ministry is engaged in providing financial support to Central/State Government agencies on GB trainings and workshops. An outlay of Rupees 2 crore was allocated for the Scheme in the financial year 2017-18 for this purpose. Training institutes across the country have been organizing Gender

Budgeting training programmes for officers of various Departments of Central, State Government and other District Level officials. Specific guidelines have been drawn out by MWCD for assuring the quality of these trainings and workshops. In this financial year, MWCD has supported over 65 training programmes and trained approximately 1000 Government officials.



Participants of the Gender Budgeting Workshop for State Government Officials organised by Administrative Training Institute, West Bengal in 2017



3 Day Training Programme on Gender Budgeting Organized by DDU State Institute of Rural Development, Uttar Pradesh in 2017



Trainer at a GB Training Programme Organized at RIRD, Faizabad in 2017

i. **One-to-One Interactions with Central Ministries/Departments**

5.8 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has focused on mainstreaming gender concerns in various Central Ministries/Departments and State Governments by strengthening institutional mechanisms such as GBCs and interacting with them on a one-to-one

basis. One such meeting on 'Gender Budgeting: Review of Implementation and Outcomes' was organised on 9th and 10th November, 2017 with several Central Ministries/Departments and State Governments. This meeting served as a stock taking exercise of the status of GB within the Government and paved for a way forward. Many such meetings and consultative discussions and workshops are to follow.



Interactive Meeting on Gender Budgeting: Review of Implementation and Outcomes held in November, 2017

ii. **State Initiatives on Gender Budgeting**

5.9 GB is being institutionalized in different States by requesting State Governments to designate State Nodal Centers for organizing trainings and workshops on GB. So far, 21 States have designated their State Nodal Centers (refer Annexure XXIX). These centers will help Government stakeholders to gain enhanced understanding of GB so as to

include it in the State Level planning and budgeting processes.

5.10 The Gender Budgeting Scheme has completed 10 years and in this duration, it has shown that Ministry has been actively engaged in organising/supporting GB trainings/workshops, one-to-one interactions with different Ministries/Departments, and strengthening Gender Budgeting Cells in different Central Ministries/Departments and designating State Nodal Centers on GB.

Table 5.1: Gender Budgeting**Amount in Crores**

S.No.	15 Digit Head of Account	Name of Head	BE 2017-18	RE 2017-18 (proposed)	BE 18-19 Proposed
1.	2235.02.103.70.06.16	Publication	0.02	0.02	0.10
2	2235.02.103.70.06.20	OAE	0.10	0.10	0.125
3	2235.02.103.70.06.28	Professional services	0.10	0.10	0
4	2235.02.103.70.06.31	Grants-in-aid (for training)	1.58	1.58	2.727
5	2552.00.125.24.06.31	Grants-in-aid (NER)	0.20	0.20	0.328
	Total		2.00	2.00	3.28

BE-Budget Expenditure, RE-Revised Expenditure

5.11 Looking to huge potential of Government budgets to make positive changes in gender dimensions of society, in recent years, Gender Budgeting has been propagated at the National and International level as a tool for gender mainstreaming. As a way forward, the Ministry will be engaging with every Ministry/Department and State Government to institutionalize

gender budgeting by formation of Gender Budgeting Cells/Gender Focal Points and encourage all Ministries/Departments and State Governments to report on the Statement 13. With a budget outlay of Rupees 4.28 Crores for the Financial Year 2018-19, the focus will be on strengthening internal and external capacities and undertaking audit of public expenditure, programme implementation and policies.

6



Plan, Statistics and Research



Towards a New Dawn

Plan, Statistics and Research

6.1 The need for an efficient statistical system in the Ministry for compiling and collating quality and credible statistics relating to the issues of women and children, that facilitate planning and policy making has been well recognised. Also, for better planning and implementation of development schemes/programmes/policies, a thorough understanding of the multifaceted interactions while a programme is being implemented and its impact on social, cultural and economic aspects is required. Therefore, research of ongoing programmes and certain situational analysis are also very important in order to sustain the efficient progress and attain goals mandated under this Ministry. Due to the channelization of the development programmes through a huge and multilayered bureaucratic setup at centre and state levels, there is a likelihood of public grievances arising during the implementation or related to the implementation of the programmes/schemes. It is required that the policy makers take due consideration of these grievances raised at the ground level and redress them as the schemes get implemented for the benefit of the people as a whole. Redressing grievances is also

necessary to speed up the development process at the grassroots. Proper knowledge of the grievances can be helpful to take some corrective measures to fine-tune the implementation of the schemes/programmes.

6.2 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.

6.3 The issue of gender equality has taken a centre stage in the agenda for the development of our country, as this needs to be reflected through the set of goals and targets of Sustainable Development Goals which are officially known as “Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is concerned with the SDGs in respect of empowerment of women and development of children. MWCD has been made the nodal Ministry for the SDG-5 which says “Achieve Gender Equality and Empower all Women and Girls”, and thereby, emphasizes on ending all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, provide equal opportunities, equal rights to economic resources, access to

ownership and control over land and other forms of property. The various programmes and schemes that are being implemented by this Ministry are already aligned to SDG-5. The Bureau works closely with line Ministries and other stakeholders in this regard and has been closely collaborating with NITI Aayog and MoSPI for the implementation of the SDGs, especially the SDG-5.

6.4 In this the regard, the Ministry of Women and Child Development

participated in the National Consultation on SDG-5: Gender Equality- Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls jointly organized by NITI Aayog with RIS and UNDP. Officers from Statistics Bureau participated in this event held on the 11th of April, 2017 at Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. Smt. Ratna A. Jena, Statistical Adviser, MWCD, expressed the views of MWCD in the session on "Promoting Women's Empowerment and Access to Employment".



Smt. Ratna A. Jena Expressing Her Views During the Session on "Promoting Women's Empowerment and Access to Employment"

6.5 The Statistics Bureau has represented the Ministry in various workshops in order to formulate the list of National indicators for the targets of SDG 5 and other gender and child related SDGs. The Ministry participated in the National consultation on data generation for Gender Indicators of Sustainable Development Goals during 21-22 August, 2017, New Delhi organized by Ministry of

Statistics and Programme Implementation and UN Women. The formulation of a roadmap for data generation and data utilization of gender indicators especially for SDG-5 requires close collaboration between the Ministries and Departments at the National and State level and various stakeholders. It was held with an aim to enhance ownership of data generation and data utilization, by providing a platform for

the stakeholders to discuss future course of actions on addressing the gaps in gender indicators for SDGs. The key note address at the consultation was given by Shri Rakesh Srivastava, Secretary, MWCD.

6.6 Secretary, MWCD also chaired one of the sessions of the National Consultation on Data Generation for Gender Indicators of Sustainable Development Goals. Shri Rakesh Srivastava, Secretary, MWCD, while chairing the session on “Introduction to the Global and National SDG Indicator

Framework”, noted that women were the main sufferers due to gender inequality situations in the society. In recent years, gender issues have taken a centre stage in development as it had implications of universal welfare. He highlighted the multifarious efforts taken up by the Ministry of WCD in this direction that includes gender responsive planning and budgeting. Shri Srivastava admitted that SDGs had cast an onerous responsibility on the statistical community and expressed the hope that the Ministries will collaboratively rise to the challenge.



6.7 Smt. Ratna A. Jena, Statistical Adviser, MWCD chaired the session on “Presentations on Best Practices” on the second day of the National consultation on data generation for Gender indicators of Sustainable Development Goals. The presentations were given by representatives from States/Union

Territories. Smt. Jena, Statistical Adviser, MWCD summarized the importance of active involvement of states for developing specific indicators for having in-depth analysis of the status of women and gender equality. Gender statistics and its importance in monitoring progress under SDG framework were the main topics of discussion during the event.



6.8 The Statistics Bureau is collaborating with NITI Aayog for the finalization of output-outcome indicators which captures targets and progress of different schemes of the Ministry and is monitored through the Dashboard of NITI Aayog.

6.9 The Statistics Bureau is also a part of the Sub-Group II of the Technical Advisory Committee for National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) under the Chairmanship of Dr. N. S. Shastri, Ex. DG & CEO, NSSO. This Bureau is engaged in the formulation of questionnaire for NFHS-5. As a representative from the Ministry of WCD, it has been part of various meetings of the subgroup and has provided valuable comments on issues related to inclusion of

information relating to Child Labour and framing/designing of the community schedule and the adolescent schedule as well as for including in the questionnaires that can provide maximum information in respect of SDGs.

6.10 During the year 2017-18, the Statistics Bureau has also made a draft report on the Gender Empowerment Measures (GEM) and Gender Development Indices (GDI) estimated on the basis of the data collected from different sources and Ministries. This report is under process. The Bureau has also worked upon the PMO references and has compiled the initiatives taken and achievements made by the present Government with respect to the issues of women empowerment and child development.

I. Grant-in-Aid for Research & Publications Scheme

6.11 The Ministry of Women & Child Development sponsors the projects on issues concerning to women and children for their welfare and development, including Food and Nutrition aspects. However, priorities within these broad areas are given to research projects of applied nature keeping in consideration plan policies and programmes, and social problems requiring urgent public intervention for bridging information gaps. The research on various issues of women and children is essential to understand multifaceted factors responsible for success or otherwise of the projects of MWCD at the ground level.

6.12 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 duly 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 may also be made eligible for the same. The voluntary organization should have 3 (three) years experience after registration.

6.13 The Ministry has sponsored 10 new projects during the current financial year 2017-18, of which one has been a seminar and the other one has been a workshop. From the sponsored 18 projects during the last two years, two major research projects namely National Study on Human Trafficking and Nationwide Evaluation of Family Counselling Centres (FCCs) run by CSWB are still going on in the year 2017-18. These two studies are being carried out by the Tata Institute of Social Science, Mumbai.

6.14 The Workshop which was sponsored by the Ministry during the current financial year was on "Best Practices on Promoting Skill Development in Slum Areas" organized by Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai under the GIA for Research Scheme. The keynote address in the workshop was given by former Hon'ble Minister of State Smt. Krishna Raj. Slum Women and Vocational Training Providers(VTPs) from various parts of the country shared their experiences in the workshop and they narrated how skill development has changed their lives. They were encouraged having being felicitated by MoS, WCD. The programme was highly appreciated by the Hon'ble Minister of State, WCD and she stated that this kind of workshop needs to be organized by the Ministry often.



Hon'ble the then MoS, WCD, Smt. Krishna Raj Feliciting Women Slum Dwellers during the Workshop

6.15 In the workshop, a report of the study and a handbook on Best Practices on Promoting Skill Development in Slum Areas was released by Smt. Krishna Raj, Hon'ble MoS, MWCD. The book

contains findings and recommendations for future policy making and also includes various best practices that can be replicated in different states.



Hon'ble the then MoS, WCD, Smt. Krishna Raj Releasing the Handbook on "Best Practices". Others Present are Prof. Medha Somaiya, TISS, Officers from IIPA and MWCD

6.16 The officers from the Statistics Bureau, on invitation, have delivered lectures in National Statistical Systems Training Academy (NSSTA) and Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) to central and state level officers on the issues related to women empowerment and child development. The Schemes/programmes of the Ministry and its achievements during the current financial year were also presented.

6.17 During the financial year 2017-18, against the budget allocation of Rs. 2.00 crores, an amount of Rs. 1.60 crores has been released (upto December 2017), to different organizations. Details of funds sanctioned/released during 2017-18 to different organisations for new / old projects are given at Annexure XXX.

II. Internship Programme for Young Students

6.18 The Bureau has also initiated the Short Term and Long Term Internship Programme 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 is 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.

6.19 The Internship Programme was launched in previous year on 22nd August, 2016 and in a very short span of only a year 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 70-80 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/- for short term internship (2-3 months) and Rs. 10,000/- 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.



Smt. Ratna Anjan Jena, Statistical Adviser, MWCD alongwith Shri D.K Tiwari, Internship Coordinator is Felicitating Young Interns with Certificates

6.20 The interns worked in different Bureaus of the Ministry on the subjects BBBP Scheme, Swadhar Greh Scheme, Ujjawala Scheme, Research Scheme, Human Trafficking, Econometric Analysis on the data pertaining to girls' education, Public Grievances and Food & Nutrition of children.

6.21 Physical/Financial Achievements of Internship Programme during 2017-18 is as follows:

59- under Short Term with stipend

09- under Long term with stipend

06- under short term without incentive.

A total of 74 interns have been trained so far and 42 more interns are to be enrolled for this programme by the end of February 2018.

6.22 Out of a Budget Estimate of Rs. 15.00 lakhs under the Internship Programme of Research Scheme, Rs. 11.00 lakhs have been spent till December 2017-18. More funds are likely to be utilized by the end of the financial year 2017-18.



Felicitation Programme of Internship Scheme being held at Conference Hall, NMEW on 21st July, 2017 under the Chairpersonship of Statistical Adviser, Smt. Ratna Anjan Jena in the Presence of Other Officers of MWCD.

III. Public Grievances

6.23 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 Deputy Secretary of the Ministry has been designated

as Public Grievance Officer. For strong and effective internal 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 Secretary (WCD) and senior officers of the Ministry.

6.24 At present, the following mechanisms for handling public grievances concerning the Ministry of Women and Child Development received from National Portal (directly from public), Prime Minister's Office, President's Secretariat and the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances are being followed:

- a) On daily basis, Public Grievance Officer accesses to the National web Portal online and sorts out the grievance relating to different Bureaus for necessary action. The hard copies of the grievances received are also sent to the concerned officers in the Ministry.
- b) Acknowledgments are sent to those

applicants who do not have the e-mail address or mobile number. Those persons having grievances are also informed about the details of the officers who will redress their grievances. In some cases, applicants are advised to contact the concerned Central Ministry/Department/Agency where the subject matters of the grievances pertain.

- c) Records of the action taken report furnished by the concerned officers in the Ministry being maintained in this Bureau.

6.25 Large numbers of grievances which are received in physical mode, mostly relate to suggestions e.g. changes in the existing laws and policies of the MWCD for improving the conditions of women and children in the country, are forwarded to the concerned officers in the Ministry. These are generally discussed among the officers of the MWCD. The possibility of inclusion of those suggestions in the implementation of schemes is taken care of after due discussion.

6.26 The Progress Report of grievances received and disposed of from various sources during 01/04/2017 to 31/12/2017 is given in the following table:

Grievance Source	B/F Balance	Receipt During the Period	Total Receipts	Cases Disposed of During the Period
DARPG	11	59	70	69
Local/Internet	216	1526	1742	1575
Pension	04	21	25	17
PMO	544	1375	1919	1706
President Secretariat	04	33	37	35
Total	779	3014	3793	3402

6.27 The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) has acknowledged this Ministry for redressing the public grievances in a very efficient manner. The Ministry was ranked 3rd in position and awarded a Certificate of Appreciation on the basis of handling Public Grievances on CPGRAMS. The overall percentage of disposal of PGs as per CPGRAMS Monitoring Desk is 97% as on 09/01/2018. The category-wise analysis of the public grievances is done in the Ministry and efforts are being taken up to streamline the policies of the Ministry accordingly.

IV. Conference of Partner NGOs:

6.28 One of the major achievements of the Statistics Bureau during the year 2017 was the successful organization of the first ever Conference of Partner NGOs: Implementation of Policies, Schemes,

Programmes for Women and Children: Challenges and Way Forward which was held on October 9th, 2017 at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi. The Conference was inaugurated by the Chief Guest of the occasion, Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, Hon'ble Minister of Women and Child Development. Dr. Virendra Kumar, Hon'ble Minister of State, MWCD was the Guest of Honour. Shri Rakesh Srivastava, Secretary, MWCD, Shri Ajay Tirkey, Addl. Secretary, MWCD and Smt. Ratna Anjan Jena, Statistical Adviser of the Ministry were also present on the dais. Representatives of 167 NGOs from across the country and officers of the line Ministries and MWCD attended the conference. The objective of the conference was to provide NGO partners an opportunity to share their experiences and insights and to deliberate upon the various challenges confronted at the grass-root level for the welfare of the women and children.



6.29 The importance of NGOs in reaching out at the grassroots was emphasized upon during the key note address by Secretary, MWCD and the addresses given Hon'ble Minister and Hon'ble MoS, MWCD. The Chief Guest, Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, Hon'ble

Minister, WCD also held a direct interaction with the participant NGO representatives and asked them to voice their opinions and concerns to her. An overview of the various policies and programmes of the Ministry were discussed and deliberated upon.



6.30 A breakaway session was held wherein NGOs were placed into 5 groups based on the core themes: 1) Violence against: Prevention & Facilitating Access to Justice, 2) National Policy for Women: Policy Interventions for Gender

Parity, 3) Trafficking of Women and Children: Role of State Institutions, 4) Cyber Crime and Children: Prevention and Harm Reduction, and 5) Implementation of JJ Act: Structural Challenges and Mainstreaming of Children.



6.31 The brainstorming discussions yielded fruitful outcomes in the form of useful suggestions and policy recommendations. The suggestions were presented by the representatives of each of the groups during the “Presentation

Session”. The overall suggestions and recommendations provided by the NGOs and some other important points regarding steps needed to be taken by the Ministry were addressed during the session.



Participant Presenting during the Conference's Presentation Session

6.32 The Statistics Bureau has also drafted a report on the Conference by including all the important suggestions and feedback provided by the NGOs during the conference and post conference which was sent to the PMO. The final report of the first ever Conference of Partner NGOs: Implementation of Policies, Schemes, Programmes for Women and Children: Challenges and Way Forward

will soon be published. The conference received great appreciation from all the participants and the Ministry for its successful and flawless conduct.

6.33 The Ministry endeavors to organize such conferences in future for developing collaboration with NGOs working in the direction of providing services to women and children at the grass-root level.



Smt. Ratna A. Jena, Statistical Adviser Offering Vote of Thanks During the Conference



Other Programmes & Activities



Towards a New Dawn

Other Programmes & Activities

I. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

7.1 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 2017-18 by the Ministry are as follows:

eOffice: <https://mwcd.eoffice.gov.in>

7.2 The Ministry has fully implemented eOffice 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 (39,887) and percentage of e-files (100%) among all Ministries with zero physical file.*

Mapping and Seeding of LGD Codes:

7.3 Local Government Directory (LGD) is a standard location code directory which assigns unique code to each revenue/land region entity such as State, Districts, Sub district, Block and village and to local bodies such as village panchayat, municipality, and to Department/organization units. Ministry is in the process of integrating its e-Governance applications with the LGD Codes of the location of administrative units.

Uploading Services on National Government Service Portal

7.4 Ministry's IT services (under G2C, G2E and G2B) are being uploaded on "National Government Service Portal (<https://services.india.gov.in>)" which is being designed to provide a single window portal for all Central and State/UT Government information and transaction services, under G2C, G2E and G2B. The Portal can be accessed at <https://services.india.gov.in/>

SHe-Box

7.5 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.

NARI- National Repository of Information for Women

7.6 NARI is an e-portal that summarizes over 350 government schemes for the benefit of women, with more being added every day. It provides links to the Ministries, Departments and Autonomous Bodies offering these schemes as well as easy access to online applications and grievance redressal. It

also provides information to women on issues affecting their lives, such as tips on good nutrition, suggestions for health checkups, information on major diseases, tips for job search and interview, investment and savings advice, information on crimes against women and reporting procedures, contacts of legal aid cells, simplified adoption procedures and much more. It is available at the URL www.nari.nic.in.

PMMVY-CAS Portal for Disbursement of Maternity Benefits to Eligible Beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana

7.7 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). At Block level, digitization/approval of the data of eligible beneficiaries under PMMVY received from Anganwadi Centers/Approved Health Facilities is done for making payment to the beneficiaries bank/post office account by Nodal Officer at State level. The portal is available at <https://pmmvy-cas.nic.in>.

ICDS-CAS

7.8 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 17,50,000 Anganwadis in 77 districts of the 8 project States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar,

Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh under ICDS Systems Strengthening and Nutrition Improvement Project (ISSNIP).

7.9 The objective of ICT-RTM is to get real time information on nutritional indicators for improving the nutritional status of women and children at grass root level. In this system, Anganwadi Workers have been equipped with Smart Phones and lady Supervisors with Tablets pre-installed with a Common Application Software to capture and analyze the beneficiary wise information about the nutrition services and nutrition status. The data is available on a real time basis and can be viewed by different functionaries at block level, district level, state level and national level through dynamic dashboard using credentials. The dashboard is accessible at <https://www.icds-cas.gov.in>

ICDS-RRS

7.10 Under the Anganwadi Services under Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, the Rapid Reporting System has been rolled out wherein new formats of registers and reporting Monthly Progress Report [MPR] and Annual Status Report [ASR] have been prescribed at Anganwadi Workers (AWW) and Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) level. The citizen can know his/her nearby Anganwadi Centres through this portal. The portal is available at www.icds-rrs.nic.in.

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

7.11 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 become 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

7.12 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 motivation video on BBBP.

TrackChild: KHOYAPAYA: <https://trackthemissingchild.gov.in>

7.13 In order to bring citizen participation for protecting children, a new citizen based portal Khoya-Paya has been launched in June, 2015 which enables posting of information of missing and sighted children. It also provides facility for matching the two databases - missing and sighted children. Between June 2015 and March 2017, 7671 missing/sighted children cases were closed on the portal. Khoya-Paya portal has been designed and developed adhering to the guidelines provided in the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 and Model Rules 2007 and the provisions laid down in the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS).

POCSO e-Box

7.14 Children are often unable to complain about sexual abuse because it is usually done by someone known to them. In order to provide them with a safe and anonymous mode of making a complaint, an internet based facility, e-Box, has been provided. Here, a child or anyone on his/her behalf can file a complaint with minimal details. As soon as the complaint is filed, a trained counselor immediately contacts the child and provides assistance. The counselor also registers a formal complaint on behalf of the child wherever required. POCSO e-box available at http://www.ncpcr.gov.in/user_complaints.php was launched in August 2016, has received and handled 300 complaints till date.

Agenda Monitoring System

7.15 This system has been developed and implemented in the Ministry for monitoring of the progress of important schemes/programmes/activities of the Ministry and is used in the weekly meeting of senior officers. The Bureau/Divisional Heads concerned are adding important issues of the Ministry through their login id and password. The Bureaus are updating the status of the issues on weekly basis with progress made, decision taken and action completed.

CARINGS: Online adoption Portal
<http://cara.nic.in>

7.16 Child Adoption Resource Information & Guidance System (CARINGS) is an e-governance initiative on adoption by Central Adoption Resource Authority for smooth and transparent adoption process. The application is developed and maintained by National Informatics Centre (NIC). It was initially launched in February 2011 and hosted in the official website of CARA i.e. www.cara.nic.in. The upgraded version was launched on 1st

August 2015 as per Adoption Guidelines 2015. The impact of CARINGS has been widely acknowledged at all level and is being appreciated internationally as an instrument of innovation in adoption programme.

II. Information, Education and Communication (IEC)

7.17 The vision of the Ministry is empowering women and nurturing children. In order to meet these objectives of the Ministry, the target population needs to be informed about policies/programmes of the Ministry and they need to understand the details of the various schemes/programmes/activities of the Ministry to avail them. Accordingly, the Ministry has extensively used print, electronic, outdoor, publication of booklets and other forms of media including social media for dissemination of information and creating awareness, making positive attitudinal change and corresponding changes in behavior.

7.18 During the year 2017-18 against a budget allocation of Rs. 75 crores, an expenditure of Rs. 26.93 crores (including LoA) has been incurred on the media activities of the Ministry till November. The physical achievements during 2017-18 are as under:-

7.19 Print Media: Six advertisements Pan India were released in prominent newspapers in Hindi, English and regional languages during the year 2017-18 (Till 25th November, 2017) in order to create awareness on the Acts, Schemes and programmes of the Ministry.

7.20 Video Spots: Three spots of 30 seconds duration on Domestic Violence, declining child sex ratio and dowry, one

spot of 110 seconds on Diet during pregnancy and one spot of 100 seconds duration on Health Care during pregnancy were telecast across the country through Prasar Bharati over Doordarshan. New video spots are being telecast over digital cinema, private TV and Lok Sabha TV.

7.21 Audio Spots: 13 audio spots of different duration i.e. 30 seconds, 40 seconds, 60 seconds and 90 seconds were broadcast till November, 2017 across the country through DAVP and Prasar Bharati over Pvt. FM channels and All India Radio. New audio spots would be telecast again over these channels.

7.22 Outdoor Publicity: Awareness campaign by spreading social messages through LPG bills run across the country and on complimentary passes/VIP passes and general tickets of India International Trade Fair 2017 and six hoardings carrying social messages of the Ministry were prominently displayed.

7.23 SMS Campaign: Awareness generation by spreading social messages through SMS to reach out directly to the people across the country.

7.24 Social Media: The Ministry effectively used social media platforms of Facebook, Twitter and YouTube with followers numbering in lakhs. The Ministry has also started #HelpMeWCD where women and children can send in their grievances. In response to harassment of women in cyber space, the Ministry launched a campaign wherein complaints of trolling online could be made directly to the social media handles of the Ministry, with assured responses. The Ministry is also running a grievance redressal cell which registers and responds to direct complaints via email from women and children across the country.

7.25 Women of India Festivals:

"Women of India Festival" is organized every year by the Ministry with the aim to benefit women entrepreneurs, and also actively promote organic food and products. Women of India Festival - 2017 was organized by the Ministry from 1st to 15th October, 2017 at Dilli Haat, INA, New Delhi. The year's festival had 232 stalls and about 292 participants from all corners of the country including places from Leh to Kanyakumari attended the same. The Women of India Festival - 2017 highlighted the health and environmental advantages of organic goods, provided a platform for women engaged in this sector and encouraged the development of sustainable and easily accessible sales outlets for organic producers from remote areas.

7.26 Explaining the significance of the unique festival, Hon'ble Minister Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi thus highlighted its rationale: "the importance of making a shift from conventional products to the organic products as organic foods have been proven to contain more vitamins, minerals and nutrients than similar foods produced with chemical fertilizers, pesticides and preservatives. Organic farming relies on techniques such as crop rotation, green manure, compost and natural methods of pest control. Children are particularly vulnerable to the harmful effects of pesticides exposure. We will make a concerted effort to make this alternative a popularly used one. Like last year's edition of "Women of India Festival", this year also featured hundred of products including cereals, rice, pulses, spices, cosmetics, household products, pickles, organic ice cream, preserves,

oil, honey, tea, hair care, bath care, beauty care, aroma therapy products. Apart from producers of locally grown and manufactured products, the participants also included Nourish Organic, the Altitude Store, Dew Drops, Organic World, Aajivika Utthan Samiti, Aura Herbal Textiles, ASAL, Pro Nature Organics, Eco Green Unit, Avani, who added further variety with their vast lifestyle range at the Organic Extravaganza.

7.27 The Women of India Festival 2017 received a tremendous response from the visitors. The footfall for the exhibition ranged from 5,000-6,000 visitors on weekdays to around 6,000-8,000 on holidays which also included a large number of foreign nationals. The fair is well received by foreign nationals visiting Delhi too. The importance of organic foods/products was explained by the rural women entrepreneurs and artisans to the visitors in the exhibition which motivated them to purchase organic products.

III. Implementation of DBT in the Ministry of Women & Child Development

7.28 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. Use of Aadhaar ensure that benefits go to individuals' bank accounts electronically, minimising tiers involved in fund flow and, thereby, reducing delay in payment, ensuring accurate targeting of the beneficiary and curbing pilferage and duplication.

7.29 In pursuance of directions of the Government for implementation of DBT in its schemes, the Ministry of Women & Child Development has identified 15 Schemes/ Scheme Components for transfer of benefits and services directly to the beneficiary using Aadhaar as the primary identifier. The list of the Schemes is enclosed at Annexure XXXV. The Ministry is working in tandem with States/UTs/Implementing Agencies for implementation of DBT in its schemes. Respective Divisions of the Ministry are in various stages of development of Common Application Software (CAS)/ Management Information System (MIS) for the real time monitoring of benefit transfer in the beneficiaries' account and grievance redressal, etc.

IV. Reservation for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Classes/ Persons with Disabilities etc.:

7.30 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.

7.31 Annual Statements showing the representation of SCs, STs and OBCs and Persons with Disabilities during the

calendar year 2017 and as on 20/12/2017 are given at Annexures XXXI & XXXII.

V. Progressive Use of Hindi

7.32 During the period under report, the Ministry continued its efforts towards the maximum use of Hindi in official work. To ensure the effective implementation of the Official Language Act, 1963 and Official Language Rules 1976, official language division of the Ministry has been strengthened. All the computers (PCs) within the Ministry are equipped with bilingual facility. Efforts are being made to promote the use of Hindi in the correspondence and notings. 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. Various programmes have been organised for the promotion of the progressive use of Hindi in the Ministry. Details are summarised below:

A. Compliance of Section 3(3) of the Official Act 1963 and Rule 5 of the Official Language Rules 1976

7.33 In pursuance of the official language policy of the Government of India, all the documents covered under Sec 3 (3) of the Official Language Act 1963 viz. Cabinet notes, Parliament Questions, material related to Parliamentary Standing Committee, advertisement, notifications, circulars, office memorandum, etc. are being issued both in English and Hindi. In addition, books related to various schemes of the Ministry were translated during this period. Rule 5 of official language rules, 1976 is being fully complied by the Ministry.

B. Hindi Salahkar Samiti

7.34 For effective implementation and monitoring of official language policy of the Government, Hindi Salahkar Samiti is constituted in the Ministry under the

Chairpersonship of Hon'ble, Minister for Women and Child Development. According to the directions of the Department of Official Language, there must be two meetings in a year. The last meeting of the Committee was



Hon'ble Minister of State for Women and Child Development, Smt. Krishna Raj Presiding over the Hindi Salahkar Samiti Meeting Held at Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi on 22 June, 2017

held on 22 June, 2017 in Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of MoS, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Smt. Krishna Raj.

and participants were apprised of official language policy and quarterly progress report for the use of Hindi.

C. Departmental Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC)

7.35 The meetings of Departmental Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC) are being held regularly under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary, in-charge of OL. It reviews the progress made in connection with the use of Hindi and gives appropriate suggestions and takes decisions. Apart from this, the directions are being issued by Secretary for the increase of progressive use of Hindi in the official work in the weekly meetings. The last meeting of the Committee was held on 30 November, 2017 in the Conference Hall of the Ministry.

E. Hindi Day/Fortnight/Month Celebrations

7.37 The Hindi month was celebrated in the Ministry from 1st to 30th September, 2017. During this period, Hon'ble Minister, WCD and Secretary, WCD by issuing an appeal encouraged the officers and the employees of the Ministry to use Hindi in their official work. To give practical knowledge of Hindi in official work and motivate the staff to use Hindi in their day to day official work, noting and drafting, essay writing and self composed poem recitation, Hindi language and general knowledge, Hindi dictation, Hindi story writing, etc. competitions were organised during Hindi month. In addition, under the annual incentive scheme to encourage the officers and staff members to do their official work in Hindi, 8 officers and staff members, who did their maximum official work in Hindi, were awarded during the month. At the end of the month, a Hindi seminar on **Hindi in the Age of Liberalization** was also organised, where the officers and staff members expressed their views.

D. Hindi Workshops & Inspections

7.36 To encourage the officers and employees to do their maximum official work in Hindi, workshops were organised

7.38 At the end of Hindi month, award distribution function was organised on 03 October, 2017 in the Conference Hall of the Ministry. The function was graced by the



Officers during Prize distribution

F. Hindi Work in e-office

7.39 All work in Hindi section is being done in e-office. All circulars, files, letters are being issued through e-office only and being put up on the notice board. Hindi Unicode facility is available in all computers.

G. Plan for the North-East Region

7.40 As per the guidelines of the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry has allocated 10% of the Annual Plan outlay for the implementation of its programme in the seven North-Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim. During the year, efforts were made to involve social organizations of North-Eastern Areas with the existing support available under various Grant-in-aid Schemes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)

7.41 The schemes and programmes of the Ministry are directly impacting the lives of women and children belonging to the most disadvantaged sections of the society. Most of the programmes are

senior officers of the Ministry as well as some non-official members of the Hindi Advisory Committee of the Ministry. Official language activities in the Ministry were reviewed in the



Non-Govt. Member Sharing Her Views

located in the areas where the women and children belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC & ST) have easy access. While selecting the location for the project, preference is given to those areas which are predominately inhabited by vulnerable and weaker sections of the society. The Ministry has been earmarking budget allocation separately for Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan to the tune of 20 % and 8.2 % respectively.

7.42 The Scheme of Hostels for Working Women implemented by the Ministry provides for seats upto 15% and 7.5% for women belonging to SC and ST communities, respectively.

7.43 The schemes of Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) are aimed at improving nutritional status of people in general and of the vulnerable sections of the population including SCs and STs in particular. Community Food and Nutrition Extension Units (CFNEUs) of FNB organize training courses in the fields in fruit and vegetable preservations only for SC/ST adolescent girls and women under accelerated programmes for the development of SC/ST community. The major thrust of the programmes of the Board is on the rural and tribal areas.