



Annual Report 2008-09



Survival to Success • Celebrate Her Life



MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
Government of India



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Government of India



ANNUAL REPORT

2008-09



Towards a New Dawn

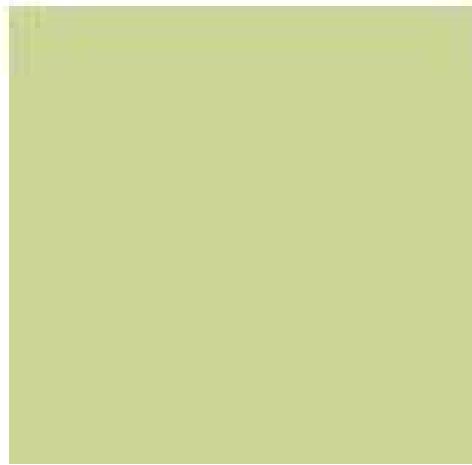
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
Government of India

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INTRODUCTION

Annual Report 2008-09



Ministry of Women & Child Development

Introduction

1.1 The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), Government of India, came into existence as a separate Ministry on 30th January 2006. It is the nodal ministry for all matters pertaining to development of women and children (aged 0-18 years) in the country who constitute 71.14 % of India's population, as per 2001 census.

Vision

1.2 The vision of Ministry of Women & Child Development is “Ensuring overall survival, development, protection and participation of women and children of the country”. The Ministry has evolved policies, plans of action, legislations, programmes and schemes for advancement of women and children and has been implementing these with the support of State Governments, other Government agencies and voluntary sector for achieving its mandate.

Subjects allocated to the Ministry of Women and Child Development

1.3 The list of subjects being dealt with in the Ministry of Women and Child Development is at **Annexure-I**. Vide Govt. notification dated 16.2.2006, all subjects relating to child welfare / protection like the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2000, Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA), and Adoption which were earlier under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment were transferred to the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Organisation

1.4 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is headed by Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Minister of State (Independent Charge). Sh. Anil Kumar took charge as the Secretary of the Ministry with effect from 18.10.2007. A post of Additional Secretary has been created in the Ministry and has become operative with effect from 5.11.2008. The Secretary is assisted by the Additional Secretary, Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, three Joint Secretaries, an Economic Adviser and a Statistical Adviser. **The Ministry has five Bureaus** which are in-charge of the following namely (i) Child Development, (ii) Child Welfare and Protection; (iii) Women Welfare and Development; (iv) Prevention of Trafficking, Girl Child & Gender Budgeting; and (v) Plan, Research, Monitoring and Statistics.

1.5 The Ministry has four autonomous organizations viz. **National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)**, **Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)**, **Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB)** and **Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)** working under its aegis. NIPCCD, RMK and CARA 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 fully 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 Ministry. The National Commission for Women (NCW) was constituted as a national apex statutory body in 1992** for protecting and safeguarding the rights of women. As envisaged in the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act 2005, notified in the Gazette of India on 20th January, 2006 as Act No.4 of 2006, the Government set up a **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCCR)** on 5th March, 2007. The organization chart of the Ministry is at **Annexure-II**.

Development of Women

1.6 The Ministry of Women & Child Development has been implementing various

programmes and schemes aimed at improving the socio economic status of women. The important programmes are:-

- **Economic Empowerment Programmes** – Swayamsidha (ended on 31.03.2008), Support to training and employment program (STEP).
- **Social Empowerment Programmes** – Swadhar Shelter Homes, Short Stay Homes and Women Helplines. Mahila Mandals, Awareness Generation Programmes, Condensed Course of Education and Family Counselling Centre scheme are some of the other important activities aiming at overall development of women.
- **Support Services** – Working Women Hostels, Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme.



Honourable Minister of Women and Child Development, Smt. Renuka Chowdhury flanked by awardee on her left and Addl. Secretary, Smt. Vijayalakshmy K. Gupta and Joint Secretary Dr. Kiran Chadha on her right

- **Micro Credit for Women - The Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)**, an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Women and Child Development implements a unique credit delivery model ‘RMK-NGO-SHG-Beneficiaries’ and has flexible credit norms, hassle free loans, no collateral and reasonable rate of interest to help women start livelihood activities.

Development of Children

1.7 The Centrally Sponsored scheme of **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)** launched in 1975 is the flagship scheme of the Ministry which aims at holistic development of children below six years and pregnant and lactating mothers by providing a package of essential services comprising supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, pre-school education, referral services, nutrition and health education.

1.8 The ICDS Scheme was introduced in 33 Blocks (Projects) in 1975. It has been gradually expanded in two phases. As on 30.6.2008, out of 6284 sanctioned projects, 6108 projects are operational. **To attain the objective of complete universalization of ICDS scheme** as enunciated in the Common Minimum Programme, to cover the hitherto uncovered habitations/settlements across the country with special focus on coverage of SC/ST and Minority population based on the requirement of States, Government of India, in October, 2008 has approved the proposals for third phase expansion with 792 additional Projects, 213286 additional Anganwadi Centres and 77102 Mini-Anganwadi Centres for third phase of Scheme. With this, the total number of sanctioned Projects has increased to 7076 with 13.80 Anganwadi Centres including Mini Anganwadi Centres. Apart from this, 20,000 Anganwadis on Demand have also been provided for. Both the calorific norm and the financial norms for Supplementary Nutrition have been increased.

1.9 **The Ministry has also enhanced the honoraria** by Rs.500 above the last honorarium drawn by Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and by Rs.250 of the last honorarium drawn by Helpers of AWCs and Workers of Mini-AWCs. A provision for two sets of uniform per year and a badge has also been made for the AWWs and AWHs.

1.10 **The Ministry has, during the year, modified the expenditure sharing pattern of ICDS between Centre and State** and also the cost norms of various components of ICDS. The sharing pattern of supplementary nutrition in respect of North-eastern States between Centre and State will be changed from 50:50 to 90:10 ratio from the Financial year 2009-2010. So far as other States and UTs are concerned, the existing sharing pattern of 50:50 for SNP will continue. However, for all other components of ICDS the ratio has been modified to 90:10 (100% Central Assistance earlier).

1.11 **The Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY) and Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG)** are schemes which target under nourished adolescent girls and are implemented through the infrastructure of ICDS.

Child Protection

1.12 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has undertaken a number of initiatives to ensure the survival and welfare of girl child. The Ministry coordinates with Ministry of Health & Family welfare for effective implementation and efficient monitoring of the **Pre – Conception and Pre – Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994**.

1.13 The Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929 was repealed and the **Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006** has been notified on 11th January 2007.



National Child Awards presentation function on 5 February, 2009

1.14 The Ministry has launched on **3rd March 2008**, a new Pilot Scheme '**Conditional Cash Transfer for Girl Child with Insurance Cover (Dhanalakshmi)**' wherein cash transfers will be made to the family of the girl child (preferably the mother) on fulfilling certain specific conditionalities and also insurance coverage.

1.15 During the year, the Ministry formulated and got approved a new centrally sponsored scheme –'**Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)**' with a view to create an environment for comprehensive development of children in the country with the objective to contribute to the 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, neglect, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children.

1.16 Other important schemes for welfare, development and protection of children are

- **Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers**
- **Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in need of care and protection**
- **Integrated Scheme for Street Children**
- **Scheme for Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social maladjustment (A Programme for Juvenile Justice)**
- **Shishu Greh scheme (to promote in country adoption of children).**

The **Integrated Child Protection Scheme** will bring the existing schemes for street children, juveniles and shishu greh in its fold, along with new interventions.

Prevention of Trafficking in Women and Children

1.17 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is undertaking a number of initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking. Important among these are,

1. **The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 is being amended** to provide for stringent punishment to the traffickers and other perpetrators of crime, deletion of Sections of the Act that re-victimizes the victim and providing an institutional mechanism.
2. A new Central Scheme "*Ujjawala*"—a Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking, Rescue, Rehabilitation, Re-Integration and Repatriation of Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation" was launched on 4th December, 2007.

Other Schemes and initiatives

Grant-in-aid for Research, Publication and Monitoring

1.18 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the scheme of **Grant-in-aid for Research, Publication and Monitoring** since 1986-87 with the objective to promote research studies for testing the feasibility and efficacy of existing programmes and services on emerging issues in the field of women and child development. Under the scheme, the Ministry also supports workshops / seminars on the important issues on women and children.

Media Activities

1.19 The Media Unit of the Ministry is actively engaged in generating awareness in country about issues concerning women and children by giving wide publicity to policies, programmes and developmental activities formulated and implemented by the Ministry. A scheme "Information, Mass Education and Publication" is being implemented by the Ministry.

General Grant-in-aid for Innovative work on women and children

1.20 The scheme **Grant-in aid for "Innovative work on women and children"** promotes innovative activities in the field of Women and Child Development which are not covered under other grant –in-aid schemes of the Ministry.

Gender Justice and Legal Safeguards

1.21 The National Commission for Women (NCW) is functioning with the mandate of safeguarding the interests of women covering all aspects of women's rights. A Bill to provide for compulsory registration of marriages has been sent to the Legislative Department for consideration for enactment.

Gender Budgeting and Gender Disaggregated Database

1.22 Gender Budgeting and Gender disaggregated database have been emphasized as the major monitoring tools to examine that the benefits of policies and programmes are reaching those for whom these are intended. Ministry of Women and Child Development has been identified as the Nodal Ministry for Gender Budgeting.

1.23 The Ministry has prepared Gender Development Index and Gender Empowerment Measure for India and States/UTs under the GOI - UNDP Project of 'Promoting Gender Equality'. The other important initiative is development of SAARC Gender Infobase. SAARC Gender Infobase, which is a unique regional webbased information system for SAARC countries, focuses on the three themes – Feminization of Poverty, Health Issues (including HIV) and Violence against Women (especially trafficking). For India, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal agency for the SAARC Gender Infobase.

Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

1.24 India signed the Convention on Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) on 30th July 1980 and ratified it on 9th July 1993 with one reservation and two declaratory statements. An Inter-Ministerial Committee has been constituted, under the chairpersonship of the Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development. India is the second country in the world to have such a Committee for implementation of CEDAW. Regional Conference on UN Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) for the Southern Zone was held at Hyderabad on 15-16 May 2008. Regional Conference for the Eastern Zone was held at New Delhi on 21-22 October 2008.

Beijing Platform for Action

1.25 The Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995 was a landmark event that set the pace for women's empowerment when a Declaration and Platform for Action (BFPA)

were adopted. India adopted both without any reservations and identified 12 critical areas of concerns which include Poverty, Education & Training, Health, Violence Against Women, Women in Armed Conflict, Economy, Power & Decision Making, Institutional Mechanism for advancement of Women, Media, Environment, Human Rights of women and girl child. The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) reviews the progress made by the member countries in these areas. The 53rd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women was held from 2 -13th March 2009, on the following themes:

- i. Key policy initiatives and innovative approaches to promote the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including care-giving in the context of HIV/AIDS; and
- ii. Capacity building for mainstreaming a gender perspective into national policies and programmes to support the equal sharing of responsibilities between men and women, including care-giving in the context of HIV/AIDS.

Evaluation of Schemes/ Programmes of Ministry

1.26 A statement showing the details of evaluation studies of important programmes of the Ministry is given below in brief :

- **Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS)** - The Scheme was evaluated in 1992 by National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD); by National Council of Applied Economic Research in 1998 and the latest by NIPCCD in 2005-06. The evaluation report "Three Decades of ICDS – An Appraisal" 2005-06 has since been published.

- **Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY)** – Evaluation by National Institute of Medical Statistics (NIMS), ICMR, New Delhi; draft report submitted and the report is under examination.
- **Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls(NPAG)** – The Nutrition Foundation of India has completed the evaluation of the scheme in December 2006 and report placed on Ministry's website.
- **Swayamsidha:** The scheme was evaluated by an external agency i.e. 'Indian Institute of Public Opinion Private Limited', New Delhi in 2005. The Report has been accepted.
- **Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP)** – The mechanism of concurrent evaluation is built into the scheme. An independent agency i.e. Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST), New Delhi has evaluated the scheme and submitted its report in June 2007. The report has been accepted and there is a proposal to revise the norms of the scheme.
- **Swadhar, Short Stay Homes and Women Helplines** – The evaluation was conducted by Centre for Market Research & Social Development, New Delhi and report submitted in February 2008. The report has been accepted and action is being taken to merge the two schemes of Swadhar and Short Stay Homes.
- **Working Women Hostel** – An evaluation study on pilot basis was conducted by NIPCCD in 2005 and report has since been submitted. The schematic norms are being revised to make it more amenable for implementation
- **Pilot Project to Combat Trafficking of Women and Children** - Evaluation study was done by NIPCCD and report submitted in July, 2007. The scheme has been replaced by Ujjawala, the comprehensive scheme for preventing trafficking of Women & Children.
- **Integrated Programme for Street Children** – Evaluation of the scheme was conducted by NIPCCD and report submitted in 2007.
- **Scheme of Assistance to home for children (Shishu Greh) to promote in country adoption** – Evaluation of the scheme was done by NIPCCD and report submitted in 2007.
- **Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in need of care and protection**– Evaluation of the scheme has been assigned to NIPCCD in 2008. The evaluation is in progress.

Evaluation of scheme/programme of CSWB

- **Awareness Generation Projects** – Recently, evaluation of the scheme was conducted by the following organizations:-
 - Delhi School of Social Work (University of Delhi, Delhi)
 - Chetna, Gujarat
 - Gandhigram Rural Institute, Chennai, Tamilnadu
 - Vidya Sagar School of Social Work, West Bengal
 - E & S Division of CSWB, Delhi and Rajasthan.

On the basis of the recommendations of these evaluation reports, the scheme is being revised.

- **Condensed Courses of Education for Women** – the scheme has been evaluated from time to time and, based on the recommendations, the scheme is being revised.
- **Family Counselling Centre** – the scheme was evaluated in 2004-05 by Tata Institute of Social Sciences and revised financial norms adopted w.e.f June 2006.
- **Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers**– There is inbuilt mechanism for monitoring of crèches through independent monitoring agencies, identified in consultation with the concerned State Government. The scheme was evaluated and revised financial norms adopted w.e.f. 1.1.2006

Important Events

Colloquium on Obesity

1.27 In order to bring a focus on the effect of obesity in children, a Colloquium on ‘Obesity in Children and Adolescents: Emerging Issues and Challenges’ was organized on **24th April, 2008** in New Delhi. This was chaired by Hon’ble Minister of State for Women and Child Development (Independent Charge).

Consultation on Surrogacy

1.28 Considering the complex ethical, moral and legal issues involved in surrogacy and the effects it can have on the child, the surrogate mother and her family, commissioning parents and all other stakeholders, the Ministry convened a consultation on 25th June, 2008, wherein the issues relating to surrogacy were discussed. The meeting was held in the presence of Hon’ble Minister of State (IC) (WCD).

Round Table on Men’s Role in Empowerment of Women

1.29 A Round table on men’s role in furthering women empowerment and gender equality was also held on 25th June 2008

3rd Executive committee meeting of National Nutrition Mission

1.30 3rd Executive committee meeting of National Nutrition Mission was held on **8th July 2008** under the Chairpersonship of Hon’ble Minister of State (IC) WCD to discuss issues regarding mal-nutrition, fortification of food with micro nutrients and expansion of food and nutrition board upto district level.

World Breast Feeding Week

1.31 The World breast feeding week was observed from **1st to 7th August 2008** on the global theme of “Mother’s support: Going to the Gold” by all the Central Food and Nutrition Extension Units throughout the country.

Launching of Media Campaign of Ministry

1.32 Media Campaign of Ministry launched by Hon’ble Minister of WCD on **20th Aug 2008**; focus issues were nutrition, girl child, also awareness on domestic violence. After declaration of 24th January as the National Girl Child Day, the Ministry held a press conference at the India Islamic Cultural Centre on 19th January and launched the second phase of the media campaign of the Ministry.

Regional Conference on UN Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

1.33 Regional Conference on UN Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) for the Southern Zone was held at Hyderabad on 15 – 16 May, 2008. Regional Conference for the Eastern Zone was held at New Delhi on 21 – 22 October, 2008.

Second Conference on ‘Micro-Finance and Women Economic Empowerment in SAARC Region’.

1.34 Rashtriya Mahila Kosh organized the Second Conference on ‘Micro-Finance and

Women Economic Empowerment in SAARC Region’ in collaboration with the SAARC Division of the Ministry of External Affairs on **16 May 2008**. Apart from India, delegates from Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka attended the conference.

Celebration of National Nutrition Week

1.35 National Nutrition Week was celebrated during 1-7 Sep 2008 in the lawns of India Gate, New Delhi. A historic exhibition on nutrition was organized on the theme “Invest in Child Nutrition” in the lawns of India Gate during 5-7 Sep 2008 at New Delhi. The Exhibition was inaugurated by Hon’ble speaker of Lok Sabha Sh. Somnath Chatterjee in the presence of Hon’ble Minister of State (IC) WCD



Honourable Minister of Women and Child Development releasing Nutrition Calender on the eve of ‘Stree Shakti Puraskar’

2nd Indo-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Women's Forum

1.36 2nd Indo-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Women's Forum meeting was held in New Delhi on October, 13 – 14, 2008. The meeting was attended by Ministers, Government officials and civil society participants.

Visit of Foreign Delegations

1.37 During the year 2008-09, delegations from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt and China were received. These delegations evinced keen interest in programs and schemes run by MWCD for women development and empowerment and desired to continue with sharing of experience,

particularly in Micro credit and ICDS programs.

Vatsalya Mela

1.38 In connection with this year's Children's Day celebrations, the Ministry had set up a Pavilion in the India International Trade Fair during **14-27th November 2008**. The Food and Nutrition Board of Ministry put up an impressive and informative exhibition at the Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. A number of Self Help Groups set up stalls in the Ministry's pavilion showcasing a wide array of products. An innovative laser show and cultural programmes organised by the Song & Drama Division of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting enthralled visitors to the fair every evening.



Honourable Minister Smt. Renuka Chowdhury viewing a stall in 'Vatsalya Mela'

National Girl Child Day – 24th January

Release of LOGO of National Girl Child Day

1.39 In order to bring to centre stage the different problems faced by the girl child and spread gender sensitisation amongst the various sections of society, January, 24 of every year has been proposed as the National Girl Child Day and dedicated to the girl child. The Logo for the National Girl Child Day has been released by the Minister of Women and Child Development on 19.1.2009.

Felicitation of recipients of the National Child Bravery Awards, 2008

1.40 The Hon'ble Minister of State for Women and Child Development (Independent Charge) felicitated the recipients of the National Bravery Awards, 2008 in a function held on 19.1.2009 in New Delhi.

Release of Anganwarta Hyderabad Edition

1.41 The Anganwarta Hyderabad edition was released by Hon'ble Minister WCD on 04.02.2009 at Hyderabad.

National Awards for Child Welfare

1.42 The Ministry of Women and Child Development organized a function on **5.2.2009** for presentation of the following Awards:

1. National Child Awards for Exceptional Achievement (2007 & 2008) (to 40 children)

2. National Awards for Child Welfare (2007-2008) (to 10 institutions and 3 individuals), and
3. Rajiv Gandhi Manav Sewa Awards (2008) (to 3 individuals)

The awards were given away by Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson, UPA. Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Minister of State (IC) WCD, Shri A. Raja, Minister for Communications and IT, and other dignitaries were also present. The function was also attended by 800 children. In addition **a special postage stamp was also released** on the occasion to commemorate the National Girl Child Day.

Stree Shakti Puraskar

1.43 The Puraskar is given in the names of Jhansi Ki Rani Lakshmi Bai, Kannagi, Rani Gaidenlieu, Devi Ahilya Bai, and Mata Jija Bai. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 3.00 Lakh and a citation. Another sub-category of Stree Shakti Puraskar, which is named after Rani Rudramma Devi has been added for 2007. The Stree Shakti Puraskar for 2007 was given **on 28.02.2009** in a function organised at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.

Conference of State Ministers and Secretaries of Women and Child Development, Release of book titled “Ananya” and awards for anganwadi workers

1.44 In order to discuss and deliberate upon the issues related to women and children and review the implementation of the schemes of the Ministry, a Conference of State Ministers and Secretaries in charge of Women and Child



Honourable MOS (IC) Women and Child Development Smt. Renuka Chowdhury talking to press; on her left Additional Secretary and on the right is Secretary, Women and Child Development

Development and other senior officers of the States and Union Territories was held on 28th Feb 2009 in New Delhi. This also served as a forum for the State Governments to bring out their concerns related to the implementation of various schemes and discuss the solutions. On that day the Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) WCD launched the concept and cover of a commemorative book "Ananya", designed by the National Institute of Design. The book, conceptualised as a dialogue between a mother and her unborn daughter, aims to highlight various aspects of womanhood. Awards for Anganwadi workers were also given away on that day.

International Women's Day

1.45 The Ministry of Women and Child Development organized a number of functions on International Women's Day. Celebrated on

08.03.2009, International Women's Day is the global day connecting all women around the world and inspiring them to achieve their full potential.

The United Nation's theme for 2009 is: "Investing in Women and Girls".

The theme for the Ministry of Women and Child Development is

"Survival to Success Celebrate her life"

1.46 During the function held on 8th March 2009, the **Secretary of the Ministry of Women and Child Development released the provisional summary report titled - "Gendering Human Development Indices: Recasting the Gender Development Index (GDI) and Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) for India"**. The report is available on the website of the Ministry www.wcd.nic.in. The detailed report is under preparation

Website of Ministry of Women and Child Development

1.47 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has a website which is maintained by the NIC and updated periodically. The website address is www.wcd.nic.in

Reservation for Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes

1.48 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 were duly requested to fill up the vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes by making special efforts; i.e., if a suitable officer is not available in the first attempt of recruitment, second attempt is also to be made within the same recruitment year or as early as possible.

Prime Minister's New 15-Point Programmes for the Welfare of Minorities

1.49 A Joint Secretary has been nominated as the nodal officer for the purpose. Food and Nutrition Board and other affiliated organisations under the Ministry have been requested to take action by organizing campaign to disseminate information on affirmative action on recruitment



Sri Anil Kumar, Secretary, WCD presenting the GDI-GEM summary report for India to the audience on International Women's Day

of minorities in the Government and PSUs/autonomous bodies.

Public and Staff Grievances

1.50 The Public Grievances received in the Ministry are attended on priority. Deputy Secretary (Admn) has been nominated as the Public Grievances officer of Ministry of Women and Child Development while Junior Technical Adviser, Food and Nutrition Board has been made Public Grievances Officer in Food and Nutrition Board.

Information Facilitation Center (IFC)

1.51 Information Facilitation Center (IFC) has been started as a single window for public relations. The Center provides information on different programs and schemes of the Ministry. It also provides copies of news magazines and other information literature from different organizations under the Ministry, such as FNB, CSWB, NCW, NIPCCD, NCPCCR, CARA and RMK. It assists voluntary organizations to track the status of their application and help familiarize them with online applications tracking system. It also functions as Right to Information (RTI) Cell i.e. nodal unit for receiving RTI applications.

Right to Information Act

1.52 In pursuance of the provisions contained in sub-section (1) of section 5 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, the Ministry has designated subject-wise Public Information Officers at the level of Deputy Secretary/Director and Assistant Public Information Officers at the level of Under Secretary for receipt and disposal of applications received under the Act. In addition, officers at the level of Joint Secretary have been designated as appellate authorities in terms of sub-section (1) of section 19 of the

Right to Information Act, 2005 for considering appeals against the decisions of the PIOs. The details of the Appellate Authorities and PIOs / APIOs have been posted on the official web site of the Ministry.

Parliamentary Standing Committee

1.53 A meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development for Demand for Grants was held on 28.3.2008 under the chairmanship of Sh. Janardan Dwivedi in Parliament House Annex, New Delhi. The composition of this Committee is at **Annexure- III** The Committee interalia examined the implementation of various Welfare Schemes of the Ministry namely ICDS, Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers, Child Budgeting, ICPS, Integrated Scheme for Street Children, Programme for Juvenile Justice, Shishu Greh, Short Stay Homes, Swadhar and organisations such as central Social Welfare Board (CSWB), Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), National Commission for Women (NCW) etc.

1.54 After the formation of Ministry of Women & Child Development in 2006, Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament attached to Ministry of Women & Child Development was constituted under the Chairpersonship of Smt. Renuka Choudhury, Minister of State (Independent Charge) on 20th September, 2006. The Committee held 7 meetings on various subjects concerning Ministry of Women & Child Development during its tenure from 2006 to 2009. The composition of the Committee is in **Annexure- IV**.

Use of Hindi in official work

1.55 Hindi Section has been mandated to implement the Official Language policy of

the Central Government in the Ministry. In pursuance of this policy, efforts were made during the period under report to maximize the use of Hindi in the Ministry. The officers and employees have acquired working knowledge of Hindi. Entries in the service books were continued to be made in Hindi. Letters received in Hindi were replied to in Hindi. Article 3 (3) of the Official Language Act, 1963 is being complied with in the Ministry. Hindi fortnight was celebrated from 12th to 26th Sept. 2008. To review the progressive use of Hindi in the Ministry, meetings of the Departmental Official Language Implementation Committee were held in the Ministry and remedial measures to overcome the shortcomings were suggested. Meetings of the Hindi Advisory Committee under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Minister

of State (IC) were held regularly. Two Hindi workshops were also arranged to propagate the use of Hindi in official work.

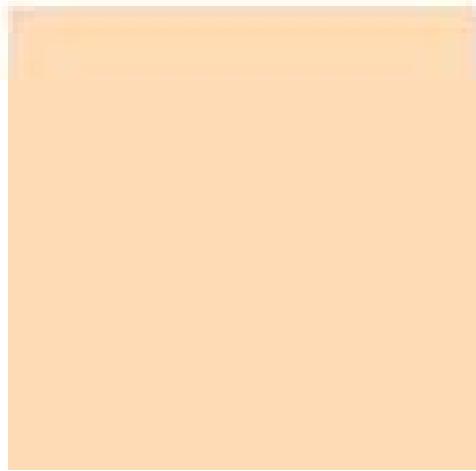
Annual Plan of Ministry of Women and Child Development

1.56 The budget estimate (BE) Plan and Non Plan for 2008-09 are Rs 7200.00 Crores and Rs. 62.00 Crores respectively. The revised (RE) Plan and Non – Plan Outlays for 2008-09 are Rs.6850.00 Crores and Rs. 69.00 Crores respectively.

Detailed progress made under specific interventions/measures undertaken by the Ministry for all-round development of women and children in the country may be seen in the ensuing chapters.

WOMEN DEVELOPMENT

Annual Report 2008-09



Ministry of Women & Child Development

Women Development

2.1 As per 2001 census, women constitute 48 % of the total population. Women as an important human resource were recognized by the Constitution of India which not only accorded equality to women but also empowered the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in their favour. Drawing the strength from the constitutional commitments, the Government of India has been engaged in committed and continuous endeavors towards ensuring all round well-being, development and empowerment of women. One of the six basic principles of governance laid down in the National Common Minimum Programme is to empower women politically, educationally, economically and legally. The upgradation of Department of Women and Child Development to a Ministry

under the independent charge of Minister of State for Women and Child Development with effect from 30.01.2006 is an important mile stone in that direction. In its nodal capacity, the Ministry has been striving for the holistic empowerment of women through reviewing the laws to remove gender bias, bringing new legal measures aiming at gender justice and implementing programmes to achieve social and economic empowerment of women.

Planning Process and Women Empowerment

2.2 The planning process has evolved over the years from purely ‘welfare’ oriented approach



Welcoming Sri Anil Kumar, IAS, Secretary, WCD during International Women's Day Celebration on 8th March 2009 in New Delhi

to the development approach and currently to the ‘empowerment’ module. It was only from the Sixth Five year Plan onwards that women secured a special niche and space in the national plans and planning process primarily with thrust on health, education and employment of women. A paradigm shift occurred in the Eighth Plan where ‘empowerment’ of women was recognized and accepted as a distinct strategy. A further impetus for sectoral contribution to women’s programmes was received with the introduction of the concept of Women’s Component Plan in the Ninth Plan whereby identified ministries were required to indicate the flow of funds to the women’s programmes and schemes. In the Tenth Plan, for the first time, monitorable targets were set for a few key indicators of human development, which include reduction in gender gaps in literacy, wage rates and reduction in maternal mortality rate. The Ninth Plan Document (1997- 2002) laid emphasis on the participation of people in the planning process, and the promotion of Self-Help Groups (SHG). The approach was to access women living in poverty and to guide them to help themselves. The Tenth Five Year Plan called for three pronged strategy of social empowerment, economic empowerment and providing gender justice to create an enabling environment of positive economic and social policies for women and eliminating all forms of discrimination against them and thus advance gender equality goals. During the Tenth Plan also, emphasis continued on empowerment of women through SHG movement. The Eleventh Plan seeks to reduce disparities across regions and communities by ensuring access to basic physical infrastructure as well as health and education services to all, recognises gender as a crosscutting theme across all sectors and commits to respect and promote the rights of the common person. The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Plan specifically states that ‘gender

equity requires adequate provisions to be made in policies and schemes across Ministries and Departments. It also entails strict adherence to gender budgeting across the board’.

2.3 Keeping with its mandate, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has taken several initiatives for bringing about gender equality, empowerment and development of women. These initiatives are discussed below:

Swayamsidha

2.4 Swayamsidha is an integrated scheme for women’s empowerment through formation of women into Self-Help Groups (SHGs). The scheme was launched in February 2001 across the States and Union Territories of the country with a total budget outlay of Rs. 116.30 Crore. The scheme was subsequently discontinued from Goa, Daman & Diu, Dadar & Nagar Haveli and Chandigarh due to lack of interest among the UTs. **The scheme ended on 31st March 2008.**

2.5 The long-term objective of the programme is holistic empowerment of women through a sustained process of mobilization and convergence of all the on-going sectoral programmes by improving access of women to micro credit, economic resources etc. The programme was implemented in 650 blocks in the country covering 335 districts.

2.6 The programme was implemented in many States through ICDS infrastructure; while in some States, the scheme was implemented through State Women’s Development Corporations. In addition to monitoring the scheme through normal means such as Quarterly Progress Report (QPR) and field visits, a system of Quarterly Review Meetings of State Nodal Officers has also been put in place.



*Income Generating Hand Embroidery activities of Janani Swayamsiddha group ICDS Project-II,
Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh*

2.7 The most important component of the programme is the formation, implementation and monitoring of blocks specific composite project for 4-5 years incorporating the following four elements: -

- * Group formation/mobilization activities;
- * Community oriented innovative interventions;
- * Convergence with specific schemes of Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), namely Support to Training & Employment Programme (STEP), Socio Economic Programme (SEP) and Awareness Generation Programme (AGP) along with other schemes, if there is a felt need for the same; and
- * Schemes of other Ministries, whether converged under Government of India's directions or State Government initiative.

Achievements under Swayamsidha

2.8 The physical achievements under the scheme by way of number of SHGs formed, savings made, groups involved in income generation activity etc are given in **Annexure-V**. State-wise funds released during 2007-08 (As on 31.3.2008), number of districts covered, blocks allocated and SHGs formed under Swayamsidha are given in **Annexure- VI**.

Review meetings for Nodal Officers of Swayamsidha

2.9 The Ministry organized 19 exposure-cum-review meetings of Nodal Officers implementing Swayamsidha till 31.3.2008 through National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD), the Lead Training

Agency of Swayamsidha. The details are given in **Annexure - VII**. The review meeting and exposure meets served as a platform to discuss the achievements made in the previous quarter with focus on training, convergence, bank linkage, income generation/micro enterprise activities and community assets created under the project. Expenditure and utilization of funds, problems and issues relating to implementation etc. were also discussed. Technical guidance was also given to the States. The Nodal Officers were taken to field to study best practices adopted in the States during exposure visits.

Evaluation of the scheme of Swayamsidha

2.10 For evaluation and outcome assessment, the Ministry commissioned national level evaluation of the Scheme through an external

agency, “The Indian Institute of Public Opinion, New Delhi” in 2005. The outcome of the evaluation has been encouraging. The evaluation report highlighted the benefits accrued to the beneficiaries specifically in terms of raising their awareness level on social issues, negotiation skills, increase in the knowledge about the legal rights, increased participation in family decision making, knowledge of banking procedures, decrease in borrowing from money lenders, capacity building etc. The Scheme has been able to provide a forum for women empowerment, collective reflection and united action. In quintessence, the evaluation showed that Swayamsidha intervention had made women come into their own i.e. a symbolic “Swayamsidha”. The evaluating agency, inter-alia, recommended that the project needs to run for another five years for stabilization, growth, sustainability and self-reliance. **It is in this context that the next phase of Swayamsidha**



Skill Development training to the Swayamsidha Members (Tailoring Training), ICDSII, Hyderabad

is under active consideration of the Ministry of women & Child Development.

Women's Empowerment and Livelihood Programme in the Mid Gangetic Plains (MGP)- PRIYADARSHINI

2.11 The objective of Women's Empowerment and Livelihood Programme in the Mid Gangetic Plains of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar or Priyadarshini Project is to empower in holistic and sustainable manner vulnerable groups of women and adolescent youth in the project area through promotion of improved livelihood opportunities through formation of women's Self help Groups. Although focus of the project would be on livelihood enhancement, the women beneficiaries will be empowered to address their social, political, legal, health and economic problems through rigorous capacity building.

2.12 The project will cover the District of Madhubani and Sitamarhi in Bihar and Shravasti, Bahraich, Rae Bareli and Sultanpur in Uttar Pradesh. The project would be of 8 years duration.

2.13 The women and adolescent girls in the project area will be mobilized to form Self Help Groups. Other SHGs existing in the project area will have the option to join the project. Training will be given to the SHG members on SHG related topics, income generation and allied activities, marketing of products, social issues etc. Community Based Service Centers (CBSCs) will be established in the project blocks to reach out to the SHGs and provide all support and guidance. NGOs will be engaged for providing various inputs. Specialised agencies will be engaged to implement various components of the project such as financial institutions to address the credit needs of the

SHG members, agricultural / dairy / fishery agencies etc. to assist women beneficiaries in livelihood enhancement, marketing agencies for marketing of products, etc. Women will be provided all support required for setting up small and medium enterprises to enhance their income. The project will develop appropriate marketing strategy for marketing SHG products.

2.14 At the Central level, the Ministry of Women & Child Development is the nodal Ministry for the project. The Lead programme agency for the implementation is National Bank for Agricultural Development. The steps for operationalising the project are under finalization.

2.15 The total cost of under the project would be US \$ 32.73million out of which IFAD share would be US \$ 30 million and GOI share would be US \$ 2.73 million.

Support to Training & Employment Programme for Women (STEP)

2.16 This Scheme launched in 1986-87, seeks to provide updated skills and new knowledge to poor and assetless women in ten traditional sectors i.e. Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Fisheries, Handlooms, Handicrafts, Khadi & Village Industries, Sericulture, Social Forestry and Wasteland Development for enhancing their productivity and income generation. This would further enhance and broaden their employment opportunities, including self-employment and entrepreneurial skills. A comprehensive package of services such as health care, elementary education, crèche facility, market linkages etc. are provided besides access to credit.

2.17 During the 9th plan period, about 255635 women beneficiaries were covered under 66 projects implemented in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal

Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal. During the 10th Plan period, about 231133 women beneficiaries have been provided training under the Scheme. So far, women in dairy sector have been receiving maximum support, keeping in view the nature of demands. The achievement of scheme during the 10th Plan period with 2007-08 and 2008-09 is as under:-

Year	Target (No. of Beneficiaries)	Achievement (No. of Beneficiaries)
2002-03	35000	133131
2003-04	40000	16350
2004-05	40000	15900
2005-06	35000	34575
2006-07	35000	31177
2007-08	40000	39055
2008-09	70000	31865

2.18 During the year 2007-08, 14 new projects have been sanctioned and 39055 women have benefited under the scheme. During the year 2008-09, 20 new projects have been sanctioned and 31865 beneficiaries have benefited from the scheme. The State-wise release of funds during the last two years and organization-wise details of fund released in 2008-09 is given at **Annexure - VIII and Annexure - IX** respectively.

Hostels for Working Women with day care center for children

2.19 The **Scheme of assistance for construction or expansion of hostel buildings for working women with day care center for children** is in implementation since 1972-73. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided

to non-governmental organizations engaged in the field of women's welfare or women's education, women's development corporations, local bodies, universities etc. for construction of building for working women's hostel. This scheme envisages provision of safe and affordable hostel accommodation to working women (single working women, women working at places away from their home-towns, working but husband out of town, widows, divorcees, separated women etc.) women being trained for employment and girl students studying in post-school professional courses. Trainees are permitted to stay for a period of one year and girl students for a period of five years, but with the condition that first preference would be given to working women who are being trained for employment and girl students should not exceed 30% of the capacity of the hostel.

2.20 So far 876 hostels have been sanctioned throughout the country. Since the demand for working women hostels is on the increase due to increasing number of women in employment, a committee has been set up to revamp the Scheme. The Scheme is proposed to be revamped in the XIth Five year plan to achieve a higher satisfaction rate for the demand for such hostel accommodation. Expenditure Finance Committee(EFC) in its meeting dated 26/11/08 recommended the continuation of the scheme with revised norms. The recommendation of EFC is pending approval of Ministry of Finance.

2.21 During the year 2008-09 (as on 31.03.2009), **11 new hostels** have been sanctioned **to benefit 933 working women**. State-wise funds released under the scheme during the year 2007-08 and 2008-09 are given in **Annexure - X** and funds released to different organisations during 2008-09 are given in **Annexure- XI** and State-wise distribution of Working Women's Hostel with Day Care Centres (DCC) for children as on 31.3.2009 is given in **Annexure - XII**.

Swadhar – A scheme for Women in Difficult Circumstances

2.22 Swadhar scheme was launched by the Ministry during the year 2001-02 for the benefit of women in difficult circumstances with the following objectives :

- To provide primary need of shelter, food, clothing and care to the marginalized women / girls living in difficult circumstances who are without any social and economic support;
- To provide emotional support and counseling to such women;
- To rehabilitate them socially and economically through education, awareness, skill upgradation and personality development through behavioral training etc.
- To arrange specific clinical, legal and other support for women / girls in need of interventions by linking and networking with other organization in both government and Non-Government Sectors on case basis;
- To provide Help-line (24 hour telephone facility) or other facilities to such women in distress; and
- To provide such other services as will be required for support and rehabilitation of such women in distress.

Target group / Beneficiaries

- Widows deserted by their families and relatives and left uncared at religious places where they are victims of exploitation;
- Women prisoners released from jail and without family support;

- Women survivors of natural disaster, who have been rendered homeless and are without any social and economic support;
- Trafficked women / girls rescued or runaway from brothels or other places or women / girls victims of sexual crimes, who are disowned by family or who do not want to go back to respective family for various reasons;
- Women victims of terrorist / extremist violence who are without any family support and without any economic means for survival;
- Mentally challenged women (except for the Psychotic categories) who are without any support of family or relatives;
- Women with HIV / AIDS deserted by their family or women who have lost their husband due to HIV/AIDS and are without any social and economic support;
- Similarly women placed in difficult circumstances.

Implementing Agencies

2.23 The implementing agencies can be the Social Welfare / Women and Child Welfare Department of State Governments / Women's Development Corporations / Urban Local Bodies and reputed Public / Private Trust or Voluntary Organisations, who are willing to take up the responsibility of rehabilitating such women. The organizations must have adequate experience / expertise for taking up such work of rehabilitation.

Performance during 2008-09

2.24 The budget allocated for Swadhar Scheme for the year 2008-09 was Rs. 20.00 crores but Revised Estimates was reduced to

Rs. 15.00 crores. Out of this, Rs. 14.94 crores was released during 2008-09. During 2008-09, 100 new Swadhar Shelter Homes / Women Helplines have been sanctioned. Funds were also released to 146 ongoing cases (Swadhar Shelter Homes and Helpline) during 2008-09.

2.25 At present, about 287 Swadhar Shelter Homes and 210 Women Helplines are functional across the country. Statewise funds sanctioned/released during 2007-08 and 2008-09 is given in **Annexure – XIII** and funds released to different organizations during 2008-09 are given in **Annexure - XIV**

Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children for Commercial Sexual Exploitation

2.26 Trafficking in human beings is an organized crime violating basic human rights. India has emerged as a source, transit and destination country. It is estimated that there are 3 million sex workers in India, of which 40 percent constitute children, as young as 10 years old. Most often these victims are trafficked through means like duping, luring, fake marriages, abducting, kidnapping and manipulating social and economic vulnerabilities and sold to brothels where they are continuously subjected to abuse, violence and exploitation by perpetrators of crime.

2.27 Article 23 of the Constitution of India prohibits trafficking in human beings and begar. The principal legislation “Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956” lays down provisions for providing stringent punishment to the perpetrators of crime. In addition, the Indian Penal Code also provides provisions for crimes related to trafficking. India is also signatory to various International and regional Conventions such as UN convention against Transnational Organized Crime with its protocol to prevent, suppress and

punish trafficking in persons especially women and children, SAARC convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Women and Children in Prostitution, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and Convention on the Rights of the Child.

2.28 The growing incidence of trafficking in the country is a major concern to the Government of India and the Ministry of Women and Child Development has undertaken a number of initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking.

2.29 The MWCD has adopted a multi-pronged approach to prevent and combat trafficking and includes:

- Legislative measures
- Enforcement
- Prevention of Trafficking
- Rescue and Rehabilitation
- Re-integration
- Repatriation of Cross-border trafficking victims

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956

2.30 The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 [ITPA] is the apex legislation for prevention of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. Certain amendments have been proposed to Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 to widen its scope, focus on traffickers, prevent re-victimization of victims and to make its implementation more effective. The proposed amendments can be categorized broadly into those, which protect the victim, and those, which punish the perpetrators. Amendments proposed to protect the victims include:-

- Increase in the age of the child from sixteen years to eighteen years.

- Deletion of existing Sections under which commercial sex workers were generally booked and further re-victimized them.
- In-Camera proceedings in Courts to safeguard privacy of victims.

The second category of amendments proposed refer to enhanced punishment for traffickers, brothel keepers, pimps etc.; and punishment extending to life if the trafficked victim is a child. A new section provides for punishment for persons who visit brothels for sexual exploitation. This is a very significant provision, as it will tend to curb the demand for trafficking.

2.31 The definition of ‘trafficking’ has been adopted from the UN Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish Trafficking in persons, especially women and children. The amendment also proposes setting-up of Centre and State Nodal Authorities in the States for preventing and combating offence of trafficking through coordination, investigation, rescue and rehabilitation, judicial support, research and training.

2.32 The Cabinet examined the proposed amendments on 13th Sept. 2007 and referred it to a Group of Ministers, which gave its decision after examining each of the amendments. The amendments so approved by the Group of Ministers was considered by the Cabinet on 23 February, 2009 and the discussion on the item was deferred.

Integrated Plan of Action to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking with special focus on Children and Women

2.33 The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) has formulated a

National Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children in 1998, with the objective to mainstream and re-integrate women and child victims of commercial sexual exploitation in the community.

2.34 To formulate a more holistic policy and programme for trafficking in persons which will incorporate all forms of trafficking (such as sexual exploitation, child labour, bonded labour, organ trade etc) and enable an integrated approach to tackle the problem, the MWCD in collaboration with Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Labour, National Human Rights Commission and National Commission for Women is developing an “Integrated Plan of Action to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking with special focus on children and women”. Three regional and a National Consultation was organized to get suggestion and feedback from various stakeholders such as the State government representatives, prominent NGOs and experts in the field. The National consultation was convened in August 2007 and the Integrated Plan of Action has been formulated. The draft Plan of Action has been finalized and would soon be adopted.

Scheme for Combating Trafficking-Ujjawala

2.35 The MWCD is implementing the Scheme of “Ujjawala” launched on 4 December, 2007”. This is a Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation and Re-Integration of Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation”. The scheme comprises of five components: -

1. Prevention, which consists of formation of community vigilance groups/adolescents groups, awareness and sensitization

of important functionaries like police, community leaders and preparation of IEC material, holding workshops, etc.

2. Rescue, safe withdrawal of the victim from the place of exploitation.
3. Rehabilitation, which includes providing safe shelter for victims with basic inputs of food, clothing, counseling medical care, legal aid, vocational training and income generation activities etc.
4. Reintegration, which includes restoring the victim into the family/community (if she so desires) and the accompanying costs.
5. Repatriation, to provide support to cross-border victims for their safe repatriation to their country of origin.

2.36 An outlay of Rs 10.00 crores was provided in Annual Plan 2008-09. The Revised Estimates for the Scheme was Rs 6.00 crores and the expenditure was Rs 4.2 crores. So far 79 projects have been sanctioned under the Ujjawala Scheme. State-wise funds released during 2008-09 is given in **Annexure – XV** and funds sanctioned / released to different organizations during 2008-09 are given in **Annexure - XVI**.

Training and Capacity Building of Stake Holders

2.37 The Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with National Institute of Public Co-operation and Child Development (NIPCCD) organizes series of workshops for stakeholders on issues relating to trafficking of children for commercial sexual exploitation. The MWCD in collaboration with NIPCCD organized training courses for international delegations from SAARC countries on various aspects of trafficking.

Combating Cross - Border Trafficking

2.38 In order to ensure safe and humane repatriation of victims of cross border trafficking especially of young children and women trafficked for prostitution, a draft Roadmap and Joint Plan of Action has been developed in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs and Bangladesh Counterparts with technical support from UNICEF. These documents are at present being vetted for finalization.

Public Private Partnerships

2.39 The need for involving corporate sector and civil society organizations to work in collaboration with other stakeholders such as Government, International Organizations to tackle trafficking led to the formation of a Think-Tank on Public Private Partnership to Prevent and Combat Trafficking of Women and Children under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development. The “Think Tank” constitutes of relevant Ministries such as Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Employment and Ministry of Commerce, business houses such as CII, FICCI and ASSOCHAM and National Commission for Protection of Child Rights. Apparel Export Promotion Council, representatives from apparel and garment industries, PATA and UNODC are special representatives to the Think Tank.

2.40 In the first meeting of the Think Tank held on 23 July, 2008, it was strongly opined by the participants that there is need to undertake a massive awareness campaign; map supply chains, vulnerable areas and industries available in the area; conduct feasibility study on employability, skill availability and education level of the vulnerable population.

2.41 As a follow-up, a Core Group on the Apparel and Garment Industry was set up where Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) and brands such as Gap. Inc, Impulse, Matrix Clothing etc agreed to provide skill-upgradation to women (especially those who have been mobilized into Self-Help Groups) in areas vulnerable to trafficking so that they can receive sustainable employment and income.

2.42 As the follow-up to the Think Tank Meetings, two projects have been initiated:

1. **Vocational Training and Skill Upgradation for Adolescent Boys and Girls of Vulnerable Groups by Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC)**— AEPC in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) and Sarhana Education Society, New Delhi (the NGO that is implementing the project) is providing vocational training and skill-upgradation to the above target groups who are in the vulnerable zone of trafficking. On successful completion, such projects will also be undertaken in other states/vulnerable areas.
2. **Vocational Training and Skill Upgradation for Women Self-Help Groups from Vulnerable Communities in Mewat Region, Haryana by Impulse and Gap. Inc**— Impulse International Pvt. Ltd. and Gap. Inc in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development and Society for the Promotion of Youth and Masses (SPYM) [an NGO working with women's Self Help Groups in the region] is providing vocational training and skill-upgradation leading to sustainable employment for women from vulnerable communities in the region.

2.43 In addition, MWCD in collaboration with NIPCCD and Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Karnataka organized a one day workshop on Public Private Partnership to Prevent and Combat Trafficking wherein a number of corporates from Karnataka, International Organisations such as UNODC and International Organisation for migration and NGOs participated.

Central Advisory Committee to Combat Child Prostitution

2.44 The Ministry constituted a Central Advisory Committee (CAC) under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. Members of the CAC constitute Central Ministries such as Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Information Technology, Ministry of Law and Justice, State Governments, NCW, NHRC, NCPCC, CSWB, NIPCCD, Law enforcement agencies including BSF, NCRB, IB, CBI, NGOs, international organizations such as UNIFEM, UNICEF, UNODC. The CAC meetings are held every quarter.

2.45 In the recent CAC meetings it was agreed to focus on crucial issues such as Inter-state rescue protocol, health, prevention, rehabilitation of victims of trafficking, legal issues, MIS and data base systems and draw up guidelines for implementation and use by all stakeholders. Details are as follows: -

- a. Protocol on Inter-State Rescue and Post-rescue Activities relating to Trafficked Persons — provides guidelines to the State Governments on the Inter-State Rescue Operations, the modalities involved, precautions to be undertaken and

responsibility of various stakeholders in providing services to the rescued victim.

- b. Prevention — provides for various steps to be undertaken to prevent trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation and includes formation of Adolescent groups and Community Vigilance groups, Anti-Trafficking Regional Networks, Appropriate interventions should be taken up in brothel areas to prevent second-generation prostitution, to undertake special measures targeting those communities traditionally involved in Commercial Sex work and rehabilitation of women who have become old to carry on the profession and are in need of care and protection.
- c. Rehabilitation—provides for action points related to area of rehabilitation such as Care and Support programmes, Community based rehabilitation, custody of victims, education and skill building of victims and their ultimate rehabilitation in the society.
- d. Health—highlights the special medical care, both physical and psychological, that is required by the victims of trafficking, the long-term impacts and the steps to be undertaken to provide holistic health services to the victims of trafficking.
- e. Legal Measures related to Trafficking—The Blue Print of Action calls for a composite Legislation addressing trafficking for all purposes such as begging, organ trade, labour, drug-peddling etc.
- f. Management Information System (MIS)—The MIS system provides format for enforcement agencies for collecting data on trafficked victims and traffickers.

National Plan of Action for implementing the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women

2.46 The Government adopted the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women on 20.03.2001. The main objective of this Policy is to bring about the advancement, development and empowerment of women and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and to ensure their active participation in all spheres of public life and activities.

2.47 To ensure that the policy prescriptions get implemented, the Ministry is in the process of drafting a Plan of Action (POA). A Core Group has been set up to redraft the POA in the light of the observations made by the Cabinet Secretariat. Under the Policy's operational strategy, the Action Plan has to be drawn up with goals achievable by the year 2010. The POA will also identify commitment of resources and responsibilities for implementation and strengthen institutional mechanisms and structures for monitoring. The operational strategy also mentions the need to develop Gender Development Index as a method of gender auditing and stresses the importance of collecting gender-disaggregated data, which will be useful for planning, implementation and monitoring.

Scheme for Relief to and rehabilitation of Victims of Rape

2.48 The Supreme Court, in a judgment dated 19.10.94, directed the Government to evolve a scheme to mitigate the sufferings of victims of rape and to constitute Criminal Injuries Compensation Board to pay them compensation. A meeting of the Committee of Secretaries (COS) was held on 4.3.2005 to discuss the

implementation of the Supreme Court judgement. In pursuance to the decision taken in the COS meeting, the National Commission for Women (NCW) has formulated a scheme titled 'Scheme for Relief and Rehabilitation of Victims of Rape, 2005' providing for constitution of (i) Criminal Injuries Relief and Rehabilitation Board at each and every district to award compensation to rape victims; and (ii) District Monitoring Committees to provide shelter, protection, legal and medical aid and other rehabilitative measures for the victims. The Scheme has been included in the XI Plan.

Laws on Women

2.49 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has set up a Committee to review laws so as to remove gender disparities, if any, in these laws. The Committee reviews the progress of action taken by the concerned Ministries in this respect. Present status of reviews of laws affecting women is given in **Annexure - XVII**. The Ministry is concerned with the legislative aspects of the following Acts:

The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986.

2.50 A proposal to amend the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 in order to widen its scope and to make its implementation more effective was considered by the Cabinet which directed wider consultations to be held for the amendment of the Act. The National Commission for Women is taking further action in this respect.

The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961

2.51 The National Commission for Women (NCW) has recommended amendments to the

Act and amendment of section 304 B of Indian Penal Code in order to strengthen the anti-dowry laws. The recommendations are under examination in the Ministry.

The National Commission for Women Act, 1990

2.52 Amendments to the Act have been recommended by the National Commission for Women in order to give more powers to the Commission. These are under examination in the Ministry.

The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

2.53 The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 was notified in the Gazette of India on 14.9.2005. The said Act is a comprehensive legislation to protect women from all forms of domestic violence. The Act also covers women who have been/ are in a relationship with the abuser and are subject to violence of any kind - physical, sexual, mental, verbal or emotional. The Act has been brought into force with effect from 26.10.2006.

2.54 The Ministry has also notified the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Rules, 2006 laying down the rules for implementation of the Act. The copies of the Act and the Rules have been circulated to all State Chief Secretaries with the request to appoint Protection Officers, register service providers and to give wide publicity to the Act for creating awareness of its provisions among the public. A proforma has been devised and circulated to the State Governments with the request to send quarterly reports on various aspects of implementation of the Act indicated in it.

2.55 The Salient features of the Act are :

- It covers those women who are or have been in a relationship with the abuser where both parties have lived together in a shared household and are related by consanguinity, marriage, a relationship in the nature of marriage, or adoption. In addition, relationships with family members living together as a joint family are also included. Even those women who are sisters, widows, mothers, single women, or living with the abuser are entitled to the protection under the proposed legislation. However, whereas the Act enables the wife or the female living in a relationship in the nature of marriage to file a complaint against any relative of the husband or the male partner, it does not enable any female relative of the husband or the male partner to file a complaint against the wife or the female partner.
- It defines “domestic violence” to include actual abuse or the threat of abuse that is physical, sexual, verbal, emotional or economic. Harassment by way of unlawful dowry demands to the woman or her relatives would also be covered under this definition.
- It confers on the aggrieved woman the right to reside in a shared household, whether or not she has any title or rights in the same. In fact, a respondent, not being a female, can be directed under the Act to remove himself from the shared household or to secure for the aggrieved woman the same level of alternate accommodation as enjoyed by her in the shared household or to pay rent for the same.
- The orders for reliefs, the aggrieved woman is entitled to, under the Act include protection orders, residence orders, monetary relief, custody orders and compensation orders.
- It empowers the Magistrate to pass protection order in favour of the abused to prevent the abuser from aiding or committing an act of domestic violence or any other specified act, entering a workplace or any other place frequented by the abused, attempting to communicate with the abused, isolating any assets used by both the parties and causing violence to the abused, her relatives or others who provide her assistance against the domestic violence.
- It provides for appointment of Protection Officers and recognizes and involves non-governmental organisations as service providers for providing assistance to the abused with respect to her medical examination, obtaining legal aid, safe shelter etc.

2.56 On completion of one year, in October, 2007, a national conference was organized in collaboration with the Lawyer’s Collective to review the implementation of the Act. This is the first time that implementation of an Act has been reviewed on completion of one year and it was found that though setting up of necessary infrastructure to implement the Act as prescribed therein is lacking in many states, as many as 7913 cases have been registered under the Act in one year. The Act has again been reviewed on completion of second year and the findings are under examination.

The Protection Against Sexual Harassment of Women Bill, 2005

2.57 A Bill seeking to confer upon women the right to protection against sexual harassment at workplace has been drafted in consultation with the National Commission for Women and eminent women organisations working in the area having requisite expertise. The proposed new legislation would cover women working in organised, unorganised and informal sectors and would have clear provisions about the employers' obligations to prevent and redress complaints of sexual harassment at workplace. The Bill is under examination in the Ministry in consultation with the Ministry of Law.

National Commission for Women

2.58 The National Commission for Women (NCW) was constituted on 31.1.1992 as an apex statutory body under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990. The main task of the Commission is to study and monitor all matters relating to the Constitutional and legal safeguards provided for women and to review the existing legislations and suggest amendments, wherever necessary. NCW is also mandated to look into the complaints and take suo moto notice of the cases involving deprivation of the rights of women in order to provide support, legal or otherwise, to helpless and needy women. Ensuring custodial justice is another important function. The NCW is empowered to monitor the proper implementation of all the legislations made to protect the rights of women so as to enable them to achieve equality in all spheres of life and equal participation in the development of the nation.

2.59 The Ministry laid the Annual Reports of NCW for the year 2004-05, 2005-06 & 2006-07 on the Table of Lok Sabha during the year 2008-09. The annual Reports of NCW for the year 2004-05 & 2005-06 were also laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha. The process to lay the Annual Report of the Commission for the year 2006-07 on the Table of Rajya Sabha during the year is under active consideration.

UN Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

2.60 Regional Conference on UN Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) for the Southern Zone was held at Hyderabad on 15 – 16 May, 2008. Regional Conference for the Eastern Zone was held at New Delhi on 21 – 22 October, 2008.

Beijing Platform for Action

2.61 The 53rd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women was held in New York from March 2 to 13, 2009, on the following themes:

- (i) Key policy initiatives and innovative approaches to promote the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including care-giving in the context of HIV/AIDS; and
- (ii) Capacity building for mainstreaming a gender perspective into national policies and programmes to support the equal sharing of responsibilities between men and women, including care-giving in the context of HIV/AIDS.



IBSA Women's Forum Meeting

IBSA Women's Forum

2.62 The IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa) Women's Forum was launched by the Heads of States of India, Brazil and South Africa during the 2nd IBSA Summit in October, 2007 in South Africa with the aim of promoting gender equality, women's empowerment and accelerating poverty eradication. The Second IBSA Women's Forum meeting was held in New Delhi on 13 – 14 October 2008 and the report was submitted on 15th October 2008 during the 3rd IBSA Summit. The meeting was attended by Ministers, Government officials and civil society participants. A Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Women Development and Gender Equality Programme was signed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble Minister of Government of the Republic of India, Ms. Nilcea Freire, Hon'ble Minister

of Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil and Ms. Manto Tshabalala Msimang, Hon'ble Minister of the Government of the Republic of South Africa in the presence of the Prime Minister of India and the Presidents of Brazil and South Africa. The Prime Minister of India commended the report of IBSA Women's Forum.

Visit by Foreign Delegations

2.63 During the year 2008-09, delegations from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt and China were received. These delegations evinced keen interest in the programmes and schemes being run by the Ministry for development and empowerment of women and desired to have sharing of experience in the various schemes particularly Micro Credit Programme and ICDS Programme.

Stree Shakti Puraskar

2.64 Indian Women have taken on different roles before and after Independence and excelled in many fields. The fact that in most cases, success has been achieved in the face of adversity and difficulties and with the strength of courage, initiative and determination makes them precious.

2.65 It is important that such success stories are publicly recognized so that such women become role models for the future generations of Indian women. As a measure of recognition of achievements of individual women in the field of social development, the Government of India has instituted five national awards titled ‘Stree Shakti Puraskar’.

2.66 The Puraskar is given in the names of Jhansi Ki Rani Lakshmi Bai, Kannagi, Rani Gaidenlieu, Devi Ahilya Bai, Mata Jija Bai. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 3.00 lakh and a citation. Another sub-category of Stree Shakti Puraskar 2007 which is named after Rani Rudramma Devi, has been added from the year 2007. This award will be given to men or women for their outstanding administrative skill, leadership quality and courage and who have worked towards empowerment of women.

2.67 In a award ceremony held at New Delhi on 28th February, 2009, Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Women and Child Development conferred Stree Shakti Puruskar, 2007 on the following:-



Honourable MOS(IC), MWCD presenting Stree Shakti Puraskar, 2007

Name of the Puraskar	Name of the Recipient
Kannagi	Smt. Aruna Tara, Andhra Pradesh
Jhansi Ki Rani Lakshmibai	Smt. Rani Devi, Haryana
Rani Gaidinlui Zeliang	Smt. Buangi Sailo, Mizoram
Devi Ahilaya Bai	Ms. Vaishnavi Jayakumar, Tamil Nadu
Mata Jijabai	Ms. V. Vijaya, Andhra Pradesh

International Women's Day

2.68 8th March is celebrated as International Women's Day the world over connecting all women around the world and inspiring them to achieve their full potential. To mark the occasion,

Shri Anil Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development presided over a special function organized by Ministry of Women and Child Development on 8th March, 2009 at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi. Health checkups for women were also organized on that day. Secretary,



Secretary, WCD presenting the certificate to a successful Trainee of Paramedical Course on International Women's Day, 8th March 2009



Free Medical Checkup on International Women's Day, on 8th March 2009

Ministry of Women and Child Development released the summary report titled “Gendering Human Development Indices: Recasting Gender Development Index and Gender Empowerment Measure for India-2009”.

SAARC Gender Information Base

2.69 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal agency for SAARC Gender Info Base in India and is actively participating in its development. SAARC Gender Info Base is a unique web site containing statistical data as well as important information

related to gender issues which was launched during 6th South Asia Ministerial Conference commemorating ‘Beijing Declaration’ held in New Delhi on 17.01.2008 by His Excellency the SAARC Secretary General. The three themes for SAARC Gender Info Base are Feminization of Poverty, Violence against women (especially trafficking) and Health Issues (including HIV). Under the three themes, there are components and under each component prioritized indicators are identified. The indicators are quantitative and qualitative in nature and the process of collecting data / information is currently going on.



Sri Anil Kumar, Secretary, WCD releasing the provisional summary report “Gendering Human Development Indices : Recasting GDI and GEM for India” on 8th March, 2009

Compilation of Gender Development Index / Gender Empowerment Measure

2.70 The Ministry of Women and Child Development had undertaken the activity of compilation of Gender Development Index and Gender Empowerment Index for India and States / UTs under GOI – UNDP project of ‘Promoting Gender Equality’. The Indian Institute of

Public Administration is the collaborating National Institution for this project. The provisional summary report titled ‘Gendering Human Development Indices: Recasting the Gender Development Index (GDI) and Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) for India’ was released on 8th March 2009 on International Women’s Day. The indices have been calculated for the two periods 1996 & 2006. The detailed report is under preparation.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Annual Report 2008-09



3



Toward a new dawn

Ministry of Women & Child Development

Child Development

3.1 Children in age group 0 – 18 years constitute 44 % of the population of India. Children are the future human resource of the country and the Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing various schemes for welfare, development and protection of children. The details of schemes and programmes undertaken for children are given below :

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme

3.2. The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme was launched in 1975 with the following objectives:

- (i) to improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age-group 0-6 years;
- (ii) to lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child;
- (iii) to reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropout;
- (iv) to achieve effective co-ordination of policy and implementation amongst the various departments to promote child development; and
- (v) 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.

Services

3.3. The Scheme provides integrated services comprising:

- i. supplementary nutrition,
- ii. immunization,
- iii. health check-up,
- iv. referral services,
- v. pre-school non-formal education and
- vi. nutrition & health education.



Providing Supplementary nutrition in Anganwadi Centre

The concept of providing a package of services is based primarily on the consideration that the overall impact will be much larger if the different services develop in an integrated manner as the efficacy of a particular service depends upon the support it receives from related services.

Pattern

3.4 ICDS is a Centrally-sponsored Scheme implemented through the State Governments / UT Administrations with 100% financial assistance for inputs other than supplementary nutrition, which the States were to provide out of their own resources. Since many States were not providing adequately for supplementary nutrition in view of resource constraints, it was decided in 2005-06 to support States up to 50% of the financial norms or to support 50% of expenditure incurred by them on supplementary nutrition, whichever is less. This Central

assistance for Supplementary nutrition is being provided to ensure that supplementary nutrition is provided to the beneficiaries for 300 days in a year as per norms laid down.

3.5 Government of India has modified the sharing pattern of ICDS between Centre and States. The sharing pattern of supplementary nutrition in respect of North-eastern States between Centre and States will be changed from 50:50 to 90:10 ratio from the financial year 2009-2010. So far as other States and UTs, the existing sharing pattern of 50:50 will continue. However, for all other components of ICDS, the ratio has been modified to 90:10 (100% Central Assistance earlier).

Population Norms

3.6 The population norms for setting up of Anganwadi Centres and Mini-Anganwadi centres are as under:



Honourable Minister of Women and Child Development presenting National Award for Anganwadi Workers



Child Growth Monitoring at Anganwadi Centre

For Rural/Urban Projects

400-800	1 AWC
800-1600	2 AWCs
1600-2400	3 AWCs
Thereafter in multiples of 800	1 AWC

For Mini-AWC

150-400	1 Mini-AWC
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For Tribal/Riverine/Desert, Hilly and other difficult areas/Projects

300-800	1 AWC
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For Mini-AWC

150-300	1 Mini-AWC
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Beneficiaries	Calories (cal)	Protein (g)
Children (6-72 Months)	500	12-15
[Severely malnourished Children on medical advice after health check-up]	800	20-25
Pregnant & Lactating (P&L) Mothers	600	18-20

Supplementary Nutrition Norms

3.7 On an average, the effort should be to provide daily nutritional supplements* to the extent indicated below:

*Revised vide this Ministry's letter No.5-9/2005/ND/Tech (Vol.II) dated 24.02.2009

Financial Norms

3.8 The Government of India has recently, revised the cost of supplementary nutrition for different category of beneficiaries vide this Ministry's letter No. F.No. 4-2/2008-CD. II dated 07.11.2008, the details of which are as under:-



Health checkup in Anganwadi Centre

Category	Rates
(i) Children (6 months to 72 months)	Rs. 4.00 per child / per day
(ii) Severely malnourished Children (6 months to 72 months)	Rs. 6.00 per child / per day
(iii) Pregnant women and Nursing mothers	Rs. 5.00 per beneficiary / per day

Registration of beneficiaries

3.9 Since ‘Below Poverty Line’ is no longer a criteria under ICDS, States have to ensure registration of all eligible beneficiaries.

Coverage

Projects:

3.10 The ICDS Scheme was introduced in 33 Blocks (Projects) in 1975. As on 30.06.2008,

out of 6284 sanctioned projects. 6108 projects were operational.

Beneficiaries

3.11 Currently, upto 30.6.2008, services under the scheme are being provided to about 838.22 lakh beneficiaries, comprising of about 694.90 lakh children (0-6 years) and about 143.32 lakh pregnant and lactating mothers through a network of about 10.27 lakh operational Anganwadi Centres.

3rd Phase of Expansion of the ICDS

3.12 Based on the requirement sent by the States, Government of India has approved the proposals for **792 additional Projects, 213286 additional Anganwadi Centres and 77102 Mini-Anganwadi Centres, for third phase of expansion of the Scheme.** With this expansion it is expected that all villages, hamlets, habitations will be covered under ICDS with special focus on SC/ST and minority population.

3.13 A statement indicating state-wise number of ICDS Projects and Anganwadi Centres sanctioned and operational as on 31.12.2008 is placed at **Annexure - XVIII.**

Expenditure under ICDS

3.14 Alongside gradual expansion of the Scheme, there has also been significant increase in the Central Government's spending on implementation of the Scheme. The Plan allocation for ICDS for the Eleventh Plan is Rs.51,400 crores which includes Rs.9000 Crores for Conditional Maternity Benefit Scheme.

3.15 State-wise details of funds released by GOI during 2007-08 and 2008-09 are at **Annexure - XIX and Annexure - XX** respectively and number of beneficiaries in **Annexure - XXI.**

Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY)

3.16 The Ministry of Women & Child

Development is implementing a scheme named Kishori Shakti Yojana using the infrastructure of ICDS. The scheme targets adolescent girls in the age group of 11 to 18 years, for addressing their needs of self development, nutrition and health status, literacy and numerical skills, vocational skills etc. KSY is being implemented in 6118 ICDS projects. State-wise list of the blocks sanctioned for KSY is at **Annexure – XXII.**

3.17 Under KSY, various programmatic options are available to the States /UTs to selectively intervene for the development of the adolescent girls on the basis of specific needs of the area. This scheme also seeks convergence with schemes of the Health Department in order to improve the nutritional and health status of the Adolescent Girls

3.18 Grant- in-aid @ of Rs.1.10 lakh only per block per annum is released to the States / UTs for the implementation of KSY. A sum of Rs. 52.63 crore have been released to States / UTs under KSY in 2008-09. State-wise details of



Formulation of Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls-National Consultation May, 2008

funds released under KSY during 2008-09 are given in **Annexure – XXIII**.

Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG)

3.19 The Government approved continuation of Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) in the year 2008-09 also on a pilot project basis. The project is being implemented in 51 identified districts i.e. in 2 backward districts each, in major States, identified on the basis of ranking developed by RD (Rural Development) Division of the Planning Commission and in the most populous district excluding the capital district) each, in smaller States/ UTs. The list of districts covered under NPAG is at **Annexure – XXIV**.

Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP)

3.20 Foodgrains (wheat & rice) are allocated by Department of Food & Public Distribution at BPL rates to this Ministry for further allocation of the same to the States/UTs. Foodgrains sanctioned under the Scheme are used for preparation of supplementary nutrition to be distributed among the beneficiaries of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme. During 2008-09, Department of Food & Public Distribution has allocated 4.80 lakh MTs of wheat and 3.30 lakh MTs of rice out of which 426510 MTs of Wheat and 290235 MTs of Rice have been allocated by this Ministry to various States/UTs.

CARE

3.21 **Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE)**, an International voluntary organization, has been contributing towards the

improvement of services under ICDS through capacity building of functionaries, creating awareness about the health and care among the people, especially, pregnant women, nursing mothers and children, extending technical support for improving the service delivery etc.

3.22 Integrated Nutrition and Health Programme (INHP) of CARE has been approved for a period of 3 years w.e.f January 2007. INHP III is in operation in the States of **Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal** covering a total of 711 blocks. Besides this, there are also replication areas in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Chattisgarh to implement the best practices of CARE, which have been noted during the two phases of INHP. Best practices include fixed day, fixed site service delivery at monthly Nutrition and Health Days (NHD), Community Volunteer Change Agents and Reproductive Health Change Agents in rural areas, Community-Based Monitoring Systems and Block-Level Resource Mapping.

3.23 INHP III is the **phase-out programme of INHP series** and no food commodity is involved under this.

3.24 CARE has also been implementing several non-food projects in the areas of population and Reproductive health, Girls education, maternal & child health, provision of micro credit facilities etc.

World Food Programme (WFP)

3.25 World Food Programme (WFP), a United Nations Agency has been extending assistance to enhance the effectiveness and outreach of the ICDS Scheme, notably, by assisting the State Governments to start and expand production of low cost micronutrient fortified food known as

'Indiamix'. WFP has been extending technical assistance in the fortification of supplementary nutrition in **6 districts viz. Tikamgarh & Chhatarpur districts of Madhya Pradesh, Koraput, Malkangir & Nabrangpur districts of Orissa and Banswara district of Rajasthan.**

3.26 This Ministry has conveyed its approval to the proposed interventions under WFP Country Programme (2008-2012) to the extent they have impact on ICDS Scheme subject to certain conditions viz. Deptt of Agriculture & Cooperation would intimate the food requirement for these interventions, prior approval of the Ministry would be obtained before undertaking any intervention concerning ICDS etc.

3.27 In addition, WFP has provided 180 MTs of Indiamix in the 6 flood affected districts of Orissa (Cuttack, Jajpur, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapada, Puri and Khurda) during the current year.

UNICEF support to ICDS

3.28 UNICEF extended its assistance towards strengthening ICDS Scheme by contributing to improvement of supply chain management, technical support and innovations to improve the quality of growth monitoring and promotion.

Pre-School Education

3.29 'Care of Pre-school Children including Pre-Primary Education' has been transferred to the Ministry of Women & Child Development through an amendment to the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 vide notification dated 16.02.2006.

3.30 Pre-School Education is being promoted as a part of the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) under the ICDS Scheme.

Recent initiatives

3.31 Government of India, in October 2008, has approved the continued implementation and 3rd phase expansion of ICDS Scheme during XIth Five Year Plan. The key features of the proposal approved by the Government are as under:

- **Universalisation** of ICDS Scheme by increasing the number of Anganwadi Centres to **14 lakh** with a provision of 20000 creating Anganwadis on demand.
- Introduction of **cost sharing** between Centre & States, with effect from the financial year 2009-10, in the following ratio:
 - 90:10 for all components including SNP for North East;
 - 50:50 for SNP and 90:10 for all other components for all States other than North East.
- Revision in financial norms of supplementary nutrition as under:-

Sl. No.	Category	Existing	Revised (per beneficiary per day)
1.	Children (6-72 months)	Rs. 2.00	Rs.4.00
2.	Severely malnourished children (6-72 months)	Rs. 2.70	Rs.6.00
3.	Pregnant women and Nursing mothers	Rs. 2.30	Rs.5.00

- Enhancement of honoraria by Rs.500 above the last honorarium drawn by Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and by Rs.250 of the last honorarium drawn by Helpers of AWCs and Workers of Mini-AWCs;

- Provision of Uniform for Anganwadi Workers and Helpers;
- Revision in financial norms of existing interventions to improve the service delivery
- Provision of flexi funds at Anganwadi level;
- Strengthening of Management Information System (MIS) and

Achievements

3.33 There has been significant progress in the implementation of ICDS Scheme during X Plan both, in terms of increase in number of operational projects and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) and coverage of beneficiaries as indicated below:-

	No. of operational projects	No. of operational AWCs	No. of Supplementary nutrition beneficiaries	No. of pre-school education beneficiaries
31.03.2002	4608	545714	375.10 lakh	166.56 lakh
31.03.2003	4903	600391	387.84 lakh	188.02 lakh
31.03.2004	5267	649307	415.08 lakh	204.38 lakh
31.03.2005	5422	706872	484.42 lakh	218.41 lakh
31.03.2006	5659	748229	562.18 lakh	244.92 lakh
31.03.2007	5829	844743	705.43 lakh	300.81 lakh
31.03.2008	6070	1013337	843.26 lakh	339.11 lakh

- Revision in cost norms of training component of ICDS Scheme.
- Reward mechanism for ICDS functionaries;

3.34 It is significant to note that during X Plan, the number of beneficiaries for Supplementary Nutrition have increased from 375.10 lakh to 843.26 lakh (124.81 % increase). Similarly, the number of children (3-6 Years) attending Anganwadi Centres for pre-school education has increased from 166.56 lakh to 339.11 lakh (103.60% increase) during the same period.

Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana

3.32 In line with the aim of the Government to provide risk coverage for workers in the unorganized sector, a benefit has been extended to Anganwadi Workers and Helpers through an insurance scheme under the Life Insurance Corporation's Social Security Group Scheme. The premium of Rs. 80/- in respect of Anganwadi Workers / Helpers has been waived upto 2008-09.

ICDS Training Programme

3.35 Training is the most crucial element in the ICDS Scheme, as the achievement of the programme goals depends upon the effectiveness of frontline workers in improved delivery of packages under ICDS. From the inception of



Pre-school Education session in Anganwadi Centre



Children attending Pre-school Education session in Anganwadi Centre

the ICDS scheme, the Government of India has formulated a comprehensive training strategy for the ICDS functionaries. The World Bank assisted ‘Project Udisha’, which was launched in the year 1999 initially for five years, ended on March 31, 2006 after 1.5 years of extension. Project Udisha achieved its main objective of clearing the huge backlogs of pre-service ‘job’ training of various ICDS functionaries. After the completion of Project Udisha, ICDS Training programme is being continued with domestic resources and as per the procedures and norms prevailing during Project Udisha.

State Training Action Plans (STRAPs)

3.36 Under the ICDS Training programme, all States/UTs are required to submit State Training Action Plans (STRAPs) delineating the details of all types of training programmes for ICDS functionaries, which are to be taken up during the financial year. STRAPs for 2008-09 were received from 31 States/UTs and the same were approved (except for Uttarakhand). An amount of Rs. 73.78 crore was approved in the STRAPs with Rs. 71.21 crore under regular training (induction, job and refresher) and Rs. 2.57 crore under the ‘other training’ component. **Annexure – XXV.**

Infrastructure for ICDS Training

3.37 There is a countrywide infrastructure for the training of ICDS functionaries, viz. (i) Anganwadi Workers Training Centres (AWTCs) for the training of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers; (ii) Middle Level Training Centres (MLTCs) for the training of Supervisors and Instructors of AWTCs; (iii) State Training Institute for the training of Instructors of MLTCs and CDPOs/ACDPOs in Tamil Nadu and (iv) National Institute of Public Cooperation

and Child Development (NIPCCD) and its four Regional Centres (in Guwahati, Lucknow, Bangalore and Indore) for training of CDPOs / ACDPOs and Instructors of MLTCs. As on 31.12.2008, a total of 493 AWTCs were operational across States/UTs. About 80% of these AWTCs are run by NGOs. In Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh training of AWWs/ AWHs was also being imparted through District level Mobile Training Teams (MTTs). 32 Middle Level Training Centres (MLTCs) for training of Supervisors were operational in the country as on 31.12.2008.

Physical Progress

3.38 Till 31.12.2008, a total of 59,265 AWWs (55% of STRAP target), 710 Supervisors (22% of target) and 31,219 AWHs (27% of target) were reported to have received job training. Also 81,887 AWWs (46%), 4,980 Supervisors (57%) and 83,592 AWHs (62%) were given refresher training till 31.12.2008.

Financial Status

3.39 Against a budgetary allocation of Rs. 100 crore for the ICDS training programme during 2008-09, an amount of Rs. 34.65 crore was released to the States / UTs till 31.3.2009.

Monitoring & Supervision of ICDS Training Programme

3.40 During 2008-09, implementation progress in ICDS Training programme was reviewed at the Central level with the major States during June and December 2008. In addition, States/ UTs have been suggested the following measures for strengthening monitoring and supervision of the training programme:

- Conducting quarterly meetings at the State level with all AWTCs/MLTCs to review the implementation of training programmes as per the training calendar and State Training Action Plans (STRAPs);
- Ensuring timely release of grants to the training centres;
- Close monitoring of training programmes through regular visits by the concerned officials from the State HQs/District Offices;
- Ensuring timely deputation and participation of the functionaries to the training programmes; and
- Ensuring timely submission of quarterly progress reports (QPRs) to GoI.

Impact Evaluation of Project UDISHA by IIDM, Bhopal (2007-08)

3.41 During Feb-March 2007, the Ministry had initiated an impact evaluation of the erstwhile Project Udisha through NIPCCD. The Indian Institute of Development Management (IIDM), Bhopal was assigned the task of the evaluation in 15 selected States viz., Rajasthan, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh covering all regions of the country. The evaluation study was commissioned to find out to what extent the project was able to achieve its key objectives and offer evidence to support conclusions regarding impact of training on the knowledge and skills of ICDS functionaries and on their quality of service delivery. The study was jointly monitored by the MWCD and NIPCCD since its inception. A dissemination workshop to discuss the key findings of the evaluation was jointly

organized by MWCD and NIPCCD at New Delhi on 3 December 2008 with participation from the State Governments, NIPCCD, MWCD, the World Bank and various Development Partners.

Revision of Financial Norms

3.42 Approval of the competent authority has been obtained for continuation of the ICDS Training Programme during the 11th Five Year Plan with the revised financial norms relating to training of various ICDS functionaries and trainers, conducted at AWTCs / MLTCs, STIs and NIPCCD. The revised norms will be effective from 1.4.2009.

IDA assisted ICDS-IV/Reform Project (Proposed)

3.43 After the closure of the World Bank assisted ICDS-III/WCD Project, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has been formulating a specific targeted project viz. ICDS-IV/Reform Project for the support from the International Development Association (IDA). The proposed project will have two major components viz., Nutrition, and Early Childhood Education (ECE). The IDA assistance to the proposed project is expected to be to the tune of US\$ 450 million with US\$ 250 million for the Nutrition component and remaining US\$ 200 million for the ECE Component. 145 ‘high-burden’ districts in seven States (Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, M.P., Maharashtra, Rajasthan and U.P.) having the poorest nutritional status of children of 0-6 years of age in the country and 13 NREGA districts in Andhra Pradesh for its ‘best practices’, have been selected for intensive support under the project. The project is at an advanced stage of preparation now.

3.44 In order to expedite the process of development of five-year Project Implementation Plans (PIPs) by the eight participating States, the Ministry has undertaken the following actions during the reporting period:

- (i) ***Review Meeting with the States:*** A meeting with eight project States was held on 23 April 2008 in New Delhi to review the progress in the preparation of State Project Implementation Plans and the District Annual Plans. Shri Anil Kumar, *Secretary*, Ministry of Women and Child Development addressed the review meeting. Senior officials from the MWCD, State Governments, World Bank and Development Partners attended the meeting. The meeting was organized in cooperation with USAID/CARE.
- (ii) ***Publication of TOOLBOOK on ICDS-IV Project:*** In order to ensure standardization of the processes involved in developing the five years' State Project Implementation Plans and District Annual Plans, a Toolbook comprising of necessary project documents and guidelines including specific instructions on the development of State PIPs and District Annual Plans, organization of workshops/consultations with stakeholders at State/District levels, summary of State workshops, etc was prepared by the Ministry with technical support from USAID and CARE. The Toolbook was shared with all 8 States and 158 District Officials.
- (iii) ***Thematic Workshops:*** As part of the preparation of the State PIPs, the Ministry of WCD organized three thematic workshops on M & E, ECE and IEC jointly with the World Bank during May-June 2008. These workshops were attended by senior officials from the MWCD, key

officials from the eight project States, National and State representatives of Development Partners, NGOs working on ECE from the project States and members of the World Bank ICDS-IV/Reform Project team.

- (a) ***Monitoring & Evaluation Workshop:*** In order to facilitate the process of developing a "results framework" and building a shared understanding on the key aspects of monitoring and evaluation under the ICDS-IV/Reform project, a two day thematic workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation was organized on 19-20 May 2008 at New Delhi. Aimed at providing necessary inputs to the M & E component of the State and Central PIPs, the workshop sought to use a participatory approach in the development of a results framework.
- (b) ***ECE Workshop:*** Keeping in view the fact that it was for the first time the States were planning specifically for the ECE component in ICDS, the second thematic workshop on Early Childhood Education (ECE) component of the project was organized on 23 June 2008. Accordingly, to orient key stakeholders on the concepts of ECE and provide inputs on various aspects of ECE planning, implementation and monitoring, key resource persons from esteemed institutions like NCERT, NIPCCD, IGNOU, TISS etc. participated in the workshop.
- (c) ***IEC Workshop:*** The third thematic workshop was held on 24 June

2008 to orient the key stakeholders from the eight project States on the concepts of IEC and BCC (behavior change communication) and also provide inputs on various aspects of planning, implementation and monitoring for IEC component of the PIPs. In addition, keeping in view the relevance of social contexts for effective communication, findings from a Social Assessment Study which was conducted as part of the project preparation, was shared with the States.

- (iv) **Meeting with the World Bank:** Keeping in view the interventions proposed under the revised ICDS scheme for which EFC process was underway, the Ministry held a meeting with the World Bank during August 2008 to fine-tune the broad activities / interventions which would serve as the framework for reviewing and finalization of State PIPs and Central PIP and also to ensure that there was no duplication between the revised ICDS scheme and ICDS-IV Project.
- (v) **Review of draft State PIPs:** A detailed review of the draft State PIPs was undertaken jointly with the World Bank during 1-17 October 2008. Commissioners/ Directors and their concerned officers from the State Governments along with the representatives from the Development Partners (USAID, CARE and UNICEF) who were supporting the preparation of the State PIPs attended the meeting. Dr. Meera Shekar, Task Team Leader and her full team from the World Bank participated in the review meetings. Subsequently, written comments on each of the draft State PIPs were given to the States. States

were requested to submit the revised PIPs by 15 November 2008.

Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1992 And IMS Amendment Act, 2003

3.45 The Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India has been instrumental (in acting as a powerful tool) to protect, promote and support breastfeeding in the form of the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution), IMS Act. In pursuance of the International Code, India framed and adopted the Indian National Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes in **1983**. As the National Code was not found adequate in the absence of legal back-up, the Government of India enacted the ‘Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, **1992**’.

3.46 The World Health Organisation by World Health Assembly Resolution No.47.5 dated the 9th May 1994 called upon all Member Nations to aim at achieving this goal. The said resolution, *inter alia*, required Member Nations to foster appropriate complementary feeding practices for the infants from the age of about six months and encourage continued breastfeeding as well as proper feeding with safe and adequate amounts of local foods until the infant attain the age of two years.

3.47 In order to further strengthen the Act, the Government enacted ‘Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Amendment Act, **2003**. The Amendment Act

has come into force from 1.1.2004. The rules framed under the Act have also been amended to incorporate the provisions of the Amendment Act, which has also come into force from the same date as the Amendment Act.

3.48 India is the first such country in the world having given a legislative framework to the WHA resolution to promote exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life, as well as continued breastfeeding together with complementary foods for the first two years.

The important amendments in the principal Act are:

- i. Strengthening the existing provisions on publicity and advertisement to cover recent methods of advertising and promotion like electronic transmission and audio and visual transmission.
- ii. Continued breastfeeding “up to the age of two years” along with complementary food after “six months” (in place of the earlier “four months”) has been incorporated in the definition of “infant food”.
- iii. Continued breastfeeding “up to the age of two years” has been incorporated in the definition of “Infant Milk Substitutes.”
- iv. To cover recent products, which may attempt to get around the principal Act, “infant foods” have been brought at par with “infant milk substitutes” in so far as advertising, promotion and other regulations are concerned.
- v. Health care workers, pharmacies and drug stores and professional associations of health workers have been brought within the purview of the Act.
- vi. Violations of the Rules made under the Act have also been made punishable.

Rajiv Gandhi National Crèche Scheme for the children of working mothers

3.49 Rajiv Gandhi National Crèche Scheme is being implemented with effect from 1st January 2006 for Working Women’s children User Charges of Rs. 20/- from BPL families and Rs. 60/- from other families per month have also been introduced. The income eligibility limit of family has been fixed at Rs. 12000/- per month. Presently the scheme is being implemented through the Central Social Welfare Board and Indian Council for Child Welfare.

Objective of the scheme

- To provide day care facilities to the children (age group of 0 to 6 years) of working mothers by opening crèches.
- To provide development services, i.e., supplementary nutrition, health care inputs like immunization, polio drops, basic health monitoring, and recreation to the children of working mothers.

Financial assistance under the scheme

- The Government assistance will be limited to 90% of the schematic pattern or actual expenditure (except honorarium to crèche workers) whichever is less and the remaining expenditure will have to be borne by the implementing agencies concerned.
- Government grant @ Rs 3532.00 per month per crèche is given to the implementing agencies concerned.

Schematic pattern is given as under :-

(A) Recurring grant

Components	Minimum expenditure to be incurred by NGO (in Rs.)	Government Grant
Honorarium to two crèche workers per crèche @ Rs 1000.00 per crèche worker per month.	Rs 2000.00 per month	Rs 2000.00 (100%)
Supplementary nutrition @ Rs 2.08 per child for 25 children for 26 days per crèche	Rs 1352.00 per month	Rs 1217.00 (90%)
Emergency medicines and contingencies per creche	Rs 350.00 per month	Rs 315.00 (90%)
Total	3702.00	3532.00

(B) Non-recurring grant

- (i) For new crèches @ Rs. 10000.00 per crèche for purchasing the consumable stores at the time to setting up of crèches.
- (ii) For old crèches @ Rs. 5000.00 per crèche for replacing old consumable stores after every five years.

Monitoring of Crèches

3.50 The Scheme has in-built component of monitoring of crèches. State-wise independent monitoring agencies have been identified in consultation with the State Governments. Schools of Social Work, Women's Studies Centres and other reputed agencies will be engaged to monitor the crèches. Grant for monitoring of crèches is given @ Rs. 700.00 per crèche visited and inspected and a lump sum one time grant of Rs. 10000.00 to each monitoring agency. It is expected that every crèche will be inspected at least once in a period of two years.

Crèche Workers Training

3.51 A short-term training will be provided to every crèche worker. The training module,

which will be made available with the help of NIPCCD, will be provided through the training agencies that will be identified with the help of State Governments. Grant @ Rs 61900.00 per batch consisting of 30 crèche workers will be given to implementing agencies of the crèche programme.

Physical achievement

3.52 So far about 31,718 creches have been sanctioned to the implementing agencies. The number of beneficiaries is around 792950 as on 31.3.2009. A statement showing the number of crèches sanctioned and beneficiaries covered State-wise is at **Annexure - XXVI**.

Financial achievement

3.53 During the financial year 2008-09, a Budget Provision (Plan) of Rs. 100.00 Crore (Rs. 10.00 crore for North Eastern States and Rs. 90.00 crore for other States) and of Rs. 6.00 crore (Non-Plan) has been made under the scheme. As on 31.3.2009 an amount of Rs. 87.50 Crore (approximately) has been sanctioned / released under the scheme as follows:

States	CSWB	ICCW	Total
NE	70315056	30007872	100322928
Other NE	608235184	164612991	772848175
Monitoring	-	-	1824250
Total	678550240	194620863	874995353

Rs. 1.42 lakh has been incurred under Non-Plan on meeting with heads of monitoring agencies.

Cooperation with UNICEF

3.54 UNICEF projects are being implemented in India through Master Plan of Operations, which is an agreement prepared after mutual consultation and consensus within the framework of Basic Agreement signed between India and UNICEF in 1978. India is the largest Country Programme of UNICEF in the world.

3.55 The Programmes are being implemented through various Ministries and Departments dealing with children which includes Ministry of Women and Child Development, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and NACO, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, and Department of Drinking Water Supply (Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission).

3.56 The Ministry of Women & Child Development is the nodal Ministry for coordinating the implementation of the Master Plan of Operations. The Ministry of Women and Child Development conducts periodic review meetings to coordinate and monitor the implementation and expenditure of the UNICEF programmes in India.

3.57 The Master Plan of Operations (MPO) for the period 2003-07, which was signed by GOI and UNICEF on 13th January, 2003 came to an

end in December, 2007. The Country Programme Action Plan was launched by Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Minister of State (Independent Charge) on 21st August, 2008. The overall goal of the Programme of Cooperation is ‘to advance the fulfillment of the rights of all children and women in India to survival, development, participation and protection by reducing social inequalities based on gender, caste, ethnicity or region. The Action Plan details how the Government and UNICEF, together with UN Agencies, Civil Society organizations and other development partners, seek to deliver on this goal.

The Commissions for Protection of the Child Rights Act 2005

3.58 As envisaged in the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act 2005 notified in the Gazette of India on 20th Jan., 2006 as Act No.4 of 2006 the Government has set up a National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) w.e.f. 5th March, 2007. Smt. Shantha Sinha has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Commission. In addition Smt. Sandhya Bajaj and Ms. Dipa Dixit have also been appointed as Members in the Commission. The Commission is dealing with all matters relating to children for proper enforcement of children’s rights and effective implementation of laws and programmes relating to children.

Children’s Day / Vatsalya Mela

3.59 In connection with this year’s Children’s Day celebrations, the Ministry had set up a Pavilion in the India International Trade Fair during 14-27th November 2008. The Food and Nutrition Board of Ministry put up an impressive



Laser Show during Vatsalya Mela

and informative exhibition at the Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. A number of Self Help Groups set up stalls in the Ministry's pavilion showcasing a wide array of products. An innovative laser show and cultural programmes organised by the Song & Drama Division of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting enthralled visitors to the fair every evening.

National Awards

3.60 The Ministry of Women and Child Development organized a function on 5.2.2009 for presentation of the following Awards:

1. National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement (2007 & 2008) (to 40 children)
2. National Award for Child Welfare (2007-2008) (to 10 institutions and 3 individuals), and
3. Rajiv Gandhi Manav Sewa Award (2008) (to 3 individuals)

In addition to the above, a special postage stamp was also released on the occasion to commemorate the National Girl Child Day observed on 24th January.

3.61 The function was held in the presence of Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson, UPA, who gave away the awards, Shri A. Raja, Minister for Communications and IT, Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MOS(IC) (WCD) and other dignitaries. The function was also attended by 800 children from NGOs and schools. The details of these Awards are as follows:-

National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement

3.62 The National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement was instituted in 1996 to give recognition to the children with exceptional abilities and who have achieved outstanding status in various fields including academics, arts, culture and sports etc.. Children between the age of 4 to 15 years who have shown exceptional achievement in any field including academics, arts, culture and sports etc. are considered for this award. One Gold Medal and 35 silver Medals (one for each State/UT) are given annually.

3.63 The Awards for the children with exceptional achievement consists of:-

- Gold Medal – 1 (One)
A cash prize of Rs.20,000/-
A Citation and certificate, and



*Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson, UPA Presenting National Child Awards on 05.02.2009 in the presence of
Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Honourable MOS (IC) MWCD*

- Silver Medals – 35 (Thirty five)
Award money @ Rs.10,000/- for each awardee.
A citation and certificate for each awardee, and

The Awards for the year 2007 & 2008 were presented to the selected children in a function organized by the Ministry on 5.2.2009 in New Delhi. A list of Awardees is available at **Annexure – XXVII and XXVIII.**



National Child Award presentation Function

National Award for Child Welfare

3.64 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 certificate for each individual.

3.65 The Awards for the year 2007 & 2008 were presented to the institutions and individuals selected by the National Selection Committee in a function organized by the Ministry on 5.2.2009 in New Delhi as stated above. A list of Awardees is available at **Annexure – XXIX and XXX**.

Rajiv Gandhi Manav Seva Award

3.66 The Award was instituted in 1994 to honour three individuals who make outstanding contribution towards service for children. The Award carries a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh, a silver plaque and a citation to each awardee.

3.67 The Awards for the year 2008 were presented to the following Individuals selected by the National Selection Committee in a function organized by the Ministry on 5.2.2009 held in New Delhi as stated above:

- (i) Shri Maheshbhai S. Kothari, Manav Kalyan Trust, “ Mamta Mandir” Dandi Road, Vijalpore, Navsari, Gujarat



National Award for Child Welfare Presentation Function



National Award for Child Welfare Presentation Function

- (ii) Dr. Meena K. Jain, 1364, Second Floor, 4th Cross, First Stage, Second Phase, Chandra Layout, Bangalore-40, Karnataka
- (iii) Dr. Azariah Karabandi, 5-3-224, Mission Hospital Road, Khammamm-507001, Andhra Pradesh

Preparation of Reports on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its two Optional Protocols

3.68 India is a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its two Optional Protocols on sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and on children involved

in armed conflict. It is obligatory on the part of a Member country signatory to the Convention to submit a Periodic Report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child on the implementation of the provisions of the Convention in the country. The last review by the Committee on the Rights of the Child was held in January 2004. Ministry of Women and Child Development is preparing the Reports, which would be submitted to the UN Committee shortly.

3.69 The reports are being prepared in consultation with different Ministries / Departments and State Governments/UT Administrations. Wide consultations were held across the country for preparing CRC Report according to the Guidelines of UN CRC Committee.

3.70 A High Powered Committee for the preparation of the Country Report on CRC and the two Optional Protocols has been constituted to oversee the preparation of the Country Reports. The Committee consists of the representatives of other concerned Ministries / Departments, State Governments, Institutions, experts and NGOs.

Colloquium on Obesity

3.71 There have been a number of media reports regarding the growing problems of obesity in children, especially in the urban areas. Various health problems, even in adults are the result of obesity in early childhood. In order to have a dialogue with pediatricians, child health researchers, nutritionists, academicians, representatives of agencies selling fast food, representatives of organizations working for children for obtaining their views and suggestions in the matter, a Colloquium on 'Obesity in Children and Adolescents: Emerging Issues and Challenges' was organized on 24th April, 2008 in Ashok Hotel, New Delhi, which was chaired by Hon'ble Minister of State for Women and Child Development (Independent Charge). Several issues were addressed by experts in the field, namely, Childhood Obesity in India Perspective, Obesity related problems in children and adolescents. Life Style Interventions to Combat Obesity, Psychological and Social impact of overweight and obesity in children and young persons, A study of Obesity and eating pattern of school children in Delhi and a study of Obesity and its correlates among adolescents of urban Hyderabad were also discussed.

Consultation on Surrogacy

3.72 Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal Ministry for the welfare of all issues concerning women and children. There are certain issues, which are being dealt with by other Ministries but are relevant to MWCD in general

nature. As a part of the National Guidelines for Accreditation, Supervision and Regulation of Assisted Reproduction Technology Clinics in India issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2005, the Government has prescribed certain norms for surrogacy arrangements.

3.73 Considering the complex ethical, moral and legal issues involved in surrogacy and the effects it can have on the child, surrogate mother and her family, commissioning parents and all other stakeholders, the Ministry convened a consultation on 25th June, 2008, where all matters relating to surrogacy were discussed. It emerged in the meeting that there is a need for bringing a legislation on the subject which would cover all aspects relating to surrogacy for protecting the rights of the women and children involved. The meeting was attended by experts, representatives from ICMR and M/o Health and Family Welfare, NGOs, and other concerned persons and was held in the presence of MOS(IC)(WCD).

Policy and Programmes for Care and Protection of Children

3.74 The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 is the primary law relating to juveniles in conflict with law as well as children in need of care and protection. This Act provides for their proper care, protection and treatment by catering to their development needs and by adopting a child friendly approach in the adjudication and disposal of matters in the best interest of children and for their ultimate rehabilitation through various institutions established under this Act. The Juvenile Justice [Care and Protection of Children] Act , 2000 recognizes the legal necessity of care and protection of children below 18 years of age. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of

Children) Act, 2000 has been amended in 2006 replacing some of the existing provisions. Some new provisions have also been added in the legislation and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act, 2006 notified in the Gazette of India on 23rd August, 2006.

3.75 Keeping in view the amendments made in the provisions of the Act and in order to ensure uniformity, the Union Government, Ministry of Women and Child Development has notified the Model Rules, 2007 in the Gazette of India [Extraordinary] on 26th October, 2007. The State Governments may adopt the Model Rules and publish in the State Official Gazette. Ministry has advised the States / UTs that the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 and its Amendment Act, 2006 is implemented effectively and the bodies & institutions envisaged therein like Juvenile Justice Boards, Child Welfare Committees, Special Juvenile Police Units, State/District Child Protection Units, Children Homes, Special Homes, Observations Homes, Shelter Homes, etc., are set up and functioning at the earliest.

3.76 Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing Plan schemes namely (i) A Programme for Juvenile Justice; (ii) An Integrated Programme for Street Children; (iii) Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection; and (iv) Scheme of Assistance to Homes for Children [Shishu Greh] to Promote In-country Adoption, under the provisions of the Act for welfare and rehabilitation of the children in conflict with law as well as children in need of care and protection. These programmes focus on children in crisis situation such as:

- street children,
- working children,

- abandoned, orphaned & surrendered infants,
- children in conflict with the law.

3.77 This Ministry recognizes that the primary responsibility for providing care and protection to children is that of the family. Therefore, in cases where the primary care and protection is not available, all efforts must be made towards rehabilitation and social reintegration through adoption, foster care, sponsorship and sending the child to an after care organization.

A Programme for Juvenile Justice

3.78 It is a centrally sponsored scheme under which financial assistance is provided to the State Governments/ UT Administrations for meeting 50 per cent of their expenditure requirement for establishment and maintenance of various levels of institutions for juveniles in conflict with law as well as children in need of care and protection under the provisions of the Act. The ratio of expenditure in case of Non Governmental Organization run homes are 45:45:10 among Central, State and NGO (in tribal areas on 47 ½: 47 ½:5 basis). The objectives of Programme for Juvenile Justice are:

- (i) To extend help to State Governments to bear the cost of infrastructure and services development under the Juvenile Justice Act. The purpose is to see that in no circumstances the child in conflict with law is lodged in a regular prison.
- (ii) To ensure minimum quality standards in the juvenile justice services.
- (iii) To provide adequate services for prevention of social maladjustment and rehabilitation of socially maladjusted juveniles.

(iv) To ensure participation of community and other organizations in the care and protection of children in conflict with law who are perhaps more vulnerable than other groups of children.

3.79 The budget allocation under this scheme for the financial year 2008-09 was Rs.20.00 crore [increased to Rs.22.00 crore in RE 2008-09]. The details of grants released to the State Governments / UT Administrations under this scheme during the financial year 2008-09 are given at **Annexure - XXXI**.

An Integrated Programme for Street Children

3.80 The objective of this programme is to prevent destitution of children and facilitate their withdrawal from life on the streets. The programme provides for shelter, nutrition, health care, education, and recreation facilities to street children and seeks to protect them against abuse and exploitation. The strategy is to develop awareness and provide support to build the capacity of the Governments, NGOs and the community at large to prevent children from abuse.

3.81 The target group of this programme is children without homes and family support who are driven to the streets and are especially vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. Children living in slums with their parents are excluded from the coverage of this scheme.

3.82 State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, Local Bodies, Educational Institutions and Voluntary Organizations are eligible for financial assistance under this programme. Upto 90% of the cost of the project may be provided by the Government of India and the remaining has to be borne by

the Organization/Institution concerned. Under the programme no predefined cost heads are stipulated. Depending upon the type of activity and the nature of service, an appropriate amount not exceeding Rs.15 lakh per annum can be sanctioned as recurring cost for each project. The grant under the programme is released to selected organizations in two equal half-yearly installments.

3.83 The main programme components of a project under this scheme are:-

- City level surveys;
- Documentation of existing facilities and preparation of city level plan of action;
- Contact programmes offering counseling, guidance and referral services;
- Establishment of 24 hours drop-in shelters;
- Non-formal education programmes;
- Programmes for reintegration of children with their families and placement of destitute in foster care homes/hostels and residential schools;
- Programmes for vocational training and placement;
- Programmes aimed at health care and reducing the incidence of drug and substance abuse, HIV/AIDS etc.;
- Programmes for capacity building and for advocacy and awareness.

3.84 Since inception of the Scheme, 3,45,080 Street Children have been extended help by the Ministry through 83 Organizations in 21 States/Union Territories. The budget allocation during the financial year 2008-09 was Rs.10.00 crore [increased to Rs.12.50 crore in RE-2008-09]. The details of the grants released under this

scheme during the financial year 2008-09 [up to 31.03.2009] are given at **Annexure - XXXII**.

Childline Services

3.85 The Child Line, having a dedicated number 1098, is a 24-hour toll free telephone service available to all children in distress or to adults on behalf of children in distress. At present, Child Line is working in 83 cities. A state-wise list of child lines is at **Annexure - XXXIII**. The basic objectives of Child Line are:

- i. To respond to the emergency needs of the children in difficulty and refer him/her to such services as he/she is in need of.
- ii. To provide a forum for networking among Government agencies and non-Governmental agencies dedicated to the network of services in child care and protection.
- iii. To sensitize hospitals, medical personnel, police, municipal corporations etc. towards needs of children.
- iv. To ensure protection of rights of the child.
- v. To provide an opportunity to communities to respond to the needs of children in difficult circumstances.

Childline India Foundation

3.86 Child Line operations are coordinated, monitored and expanded by Childline India Foundation which is the umbrella organization set up by the Government of India. Childline India Foundation lays down minimum quality standards of the services provided to children. Childline India has responded to more than

1,47,08,103 (up to September, 2008) number of calls since its inception in 1998. Overwhelming majority of calls has been for shelter, medical assistance, protection from abuse, emotional support and guidance, information regarding referral services and missing children. The Childline India Foundation, Mumbai has been sanctioned block grant of Rs.6.06 crore during 2008-09 [upto 31.03.2009] for meeting their administrative expenses and for disbursement to childline partner organizations from the scheme 'An Integrated Programme for Street Children'. Childline India Foundation has assisted 139 organizations for running childline projects in 25 States / UT Administrations.

Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection

3.87 The objective of the scheme is to provide opportunities for non formal education, vocational training to working children to facilitate their entry/ re-entry into mainstream education in cases where they have either not attended any learning system or where for some reasons their education has been discontinued.

3.88 The programme lends support to projects in urban areas not being covered by the existing schemes of the Ministry of Labour & Employment, which provide support for the wholesome development of child workers and potential child workers especially those with none or ineffective family support such as children of slum/pavement dwellers/drug addicts, children living on railway platforms/ along railway lines, children working in shops, dhabas, mechanic shops, etc., children engaged as domestic workers, children whose parents are in jail, children of migrant labourers / sex workers, leprosy patients, etc.

3.89 The programme components are [a] facilitating introduction to/ return to the mainstream education system as children at study are not children at work [b] counseling of parents, heads of families, relatives of the targeted children so as to prevent their exploitation, and [c] give vocational training, wherever necessary.

3.90 Non Governmental Organisations are eligible for financial assistance and set up composite centres under this scheme. Ministry provides 90 per cent financial assistance and the concerned organization is to bear 10 per cent expenditure of the project as per the norms of the scheme. The budget allocation for the financial year 2008-09 under this scheme was Rs.7.00 crore [increased to Rs.8.50 crore in RE 2008-09]. The details of grants released under this scheme to Non-Governmental organisations during the financial year 2008-09 [upto 31.03.2009] are given at **Annexure - XXXIV**.

Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)

3.91 Ministry has formulated a new centrally sponsored scheme –‘Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)’ with a view to create a safe and secure environment for the children in the country who are in need of care and protection as well as children in conflict with law. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs [CCEA] has approved this proposed scheme in its meeting held on 26th February, 2009.

Objectives

3.92 The objectives of the scheme are to contribute to the improvements 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, neglect, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children. These will be achieved by: (i) improved access to and quality of child protection services; (ii) raised public awareness about the reality of child rights, situation and protection in India; (iii) clearly articulated responsibilities and enforced accountability for child protection (iv) established and functioning structures at all government levels for delivery of statutory and support services to children in difficult circumstances; (v) setting up of an operational evidence based monitoring and evaluation system.

Target Groups

3.93 The ICPS will focus its activities on children in need of care and protection and children in conflict and contact with the law. The ICPS will also provide preventive, statutory and care and rehabilitation services to **any other vulnerable child including, but not limited to**, children of potentially vulnerable families and families at risk, children of socially excluded groups like migrant families, families living in extreme poverty, lower caste families, families subjected to or affected by discrimination, minorities, children infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS, orphans, child drug abusers, children of substance abusers, child beggars, trafficked or sexually exploited children, children of prisoners, and street and working children.

ICPS brings several existing child protection programmes namely (i) A Programme for Juvenile Justice; (ii) An Integrated Programme for Street Children; and (iii) Scheme for Assistance to Homes [Shishu Greh] to Promote In-country Adoption, under one umbrella and initiates new interventions.

Care, Support and Rehabilitation Services

1. Emergency outreach service through 'CHILDLINE'
2. Transitional shelters for children in need in urban and semi-urban areas
3. Family based non institutional care through Sponsorship, Foster-care, Adoption and After-care
4. Institutional services – Shelter homes, Children homes, Observation homes, Special homes, Specialized services for children with special needs
5. Website for missing children and Web-enabled child protection management information system
6. General grant-in-aid for need based/innovative interventions

The budget allocation under this scheme for the financial year 2008-09 was Rs.200.00 crore [reduced to Rs.60.00 crore in RE 2008-09].

Central Adoption Resource Authority [CARA]

3.94 Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA) was set up in 1990 and was subsequently registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 on 18th March 1999 to act as an autonomous body in the matters relating to adoption. It has been designated as Central Authority by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on 17.7.2003 for the implementation of the Hague Convention on Protection of Children & Cooperation in respect of Inter-country Adoption (1993). It regulates and monitors the working of recognized social/child welfare agencies

engaged in In-Country adoptions through State Governments and U.T. Administrations as well as Inter-Country adoptions as provided under the Guidelines for In-country Adoption, 2004 and Guidelines for Adoption from India, 2006. These Guidelines replaced the earlier guidelines in order to bring in more simplicity and transparency in adoption procedures.

3.95 CARA grants recognition to Indian Placement Agencies on the recommendation of the State Government for processing Inter-Country adoption. It also accords enlistment to foreign agencies that are engaged in sponsoring applications of foreign prospective adoptive parents. These agencies are licensed by the appropriate Government Department in their country of origin to facilitate in-country and Inter-Country adoptions and process their applications for enlistment/renewal, which are forwarded and recommended by the India's Diplomatic Mission.

3.96 The budget allocation for CARA during the financial year 2008-09 under Non-plan Head was Rs.2.00 crore and under Plan Head Rs.2.00 crore. Further details may be seen in Chapter 12 of this report.

The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 (No. 6 of 2007)

3.97 Child Marriage is a social evil that robs children of their childhood and retards their holistic development. Child marriage has continued to prevail in spite of enactment of Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929.

3.98 In order to plug the shortcomings/inadequacies in the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 the Ministry of Law and Justice introduced the Bill "The Prevention of Child Marriage Bill, 2004" in the Rajya Sabha on 20.12.2004



Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Minister of State (I/C), MWCD viewing a stall in Vatsalya Mela

which was referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee. The Group of Minister (GOM) under the Chairmanship of Shri Arjun Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development considered the recommendations of Parliamentary Standing Committee from the Legislative Department on the subject of amendments to the Prevention of Child Marriage Bill, 2004.

3.99 Subsequently, the subject "Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929" has been allotted to Ministry of Women and Child Development w.e.f. 18.2.2006. On the basis of decisions of the GOM a Cabinet Note was prepared with the approval of Minister of State (I/C), Women and Child Development. The Cabinet in its meeting held on 21.9.2006 approved the proposal on proposed Legislation on Child Marriage Prohibition Act and Repeal of Child Marriage

Restraint Act, 1929. Thereafter the amendments to the Prevention of Child Marriage Bill, 2004 were passed by the Rajya Sabha on 14.12.2006 and The Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006 was passed by the Lok Sabha on 19.12.2006. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 has received the assent of the President on 10.1.2007 and was notified in the Gazette of India on 11th January, 2007 and the said Act has been enforced w.e.f. 1.11.2007. The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 is repealed with the enforcement of the said Act.

3.100 The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 (No. 6 of 2007) has some forward looking provisions which include prohibition rather than prevention of child marriages and provision of relief to the victims of child marriage as well as enhanced punishments for all those who have actively abetted and solemnized the marriage.

3.101 The Salient features of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 are as follows:

- Every child marriage, shall be voidable at the option of the contracting party who was a child at the time of marriage.
- Court while granting a decree of nullity shall make an order directing the parties, parents and guardians to return the money, valuables, ornaments and other gifts received.
- Court may also make an interim or final order directing the male contracting party to the child marriage / parents /guardian to pay maintenance to the female contracting party to the marriage and for her residence until her remarriage.
- Court shall make an appropriate order for the custody and their maintenance of children of child marriages.
- Child marriages to be void in certain circumstances like minor being sold for the purpose of marriage, minor after being married is sold or trafficked or used for immoral purposes, etc.
- Enhancement in punishments for male adults marrying a child and persons performing, abetting, promoting, attending etc. a child marriage with imprisonment up to two years and fine up to one lakh rupee.

3.102 Under section 16(1) and Section 19(1) of the Act, State Governments are required to appoint Child Marriage Prohibition Officers and to frame Rules. So for 10 States have framed their Rules and the exercise in other States is in progress.

3.103 A Handbook on Child Marriage has been developed in collaboration with UNICEF and

HAQ Centre for Child Rights for training & awareness on the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act. The trainings for various stakeholders are being organized in selected States with organizations like MAMTA and HAQ. The intent is to spread this all over the country.

Girl Child

3.104 The girl child is the most vulnerable member of the society in India. The life chart of a disadvantaged girl child reflects strong elements of discrimination at every step of her life – first being her very survival, on account of high incidence of foeticide. If she survives, she faces other types of discrimination where she has little or no access to education, nutrition, health or other essential needs; she is highly vulnerable to abuse, domestic labour, trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation, child marriage, early motherhood, frequent pregnancy and delivery etc. The situation further gets compounded if the girl child belongs to certain sections of society (mainly BPL families) where awareness and sensitization of the value of girl child may not be solely sufficient impetus for them to retain their daughter for various reasons unique to that family/community.

3.105 A significant reason for the above situation of the girl child is diversion of limited funds and facilities towards the male child in a family on account of ‘son preference’ as he has a much more important status in the familial hierarchy. This discrimination arises mainly on account of the perceptions of society towards a girl child, viewing her as a burden and not as an asset.

3.106 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has taken a number of initiatives to enhance the status of girl child.

Dhanlakshmi—“Conditional Cash Transfer for Girl Child with Insurance Cover

3.107 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched a Pilot Scheme **Dhanlakshmi—“Conditional Cash Transfer for Girl Child with Insurance Cover (CCT)”** in March, 2008, wherein cash transfers will be made to the family of the girl child (preferably the mother) on fulfilling certain specific conditionalities (Birth and registration, immunization, school enrollment and retention, delay in marriage of the girl child till age of 18 years). In addition, an insurance coverage to the tune of Rs 1 lakh would be taken for the girl child born on and after the cut-off date of 19.11.2008.

3.108 The objective of the Scheme is two fold –

- to provide a set of staggered financial incentives for families to encourage them to retain the girl child and educate her etc.
- to change the attitudinal mindset of the family towards the girl - by linking cash transfers to her well-being. This will force the families to look upon the girl as an asset rather than a liability since her very existence has led to cash inflow to the family.

3.109 The Scheme is being implemented as a pilot in eleven Blocks across seven States (Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab and Orissa) of the Country. These Blocks except in Punjab are educationally backward as identified by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Scheme has been included in the Eleventh Plan and an Outlay of Rs 10 Crores is provided in Annual Plan 2008-09. The Expenditure during the year was about Rs 6 crores.

3.110 A State-wise list of the funds released under Dhanlakshmi up to March, 2009 is enclosed at **Annexure- XXXV**.

National Girl Child Day

3.111 In order to bring to centre stage the different problems faced by the girl child and spread gender sensitization amongst the various sections of society, January 24 of every year has been proposed as the National Girl Child Day and dedicated to the girl child. The objective will be to promote wide spread sensitization programs on important issues pertaining to her survival, welfare development and empowerment. The declaration of such a day will be beneficial in focusing attention of the nation on her wellbeing and will definitely boost national awareness. The justification for choosing 24 January is because on this day in the year 1966 Late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi took her oath as the first woman Prime Minister of the Country, which is testimony to the empowerment of the girl child and women.

Effective Implementation of the PC and PNDT Act

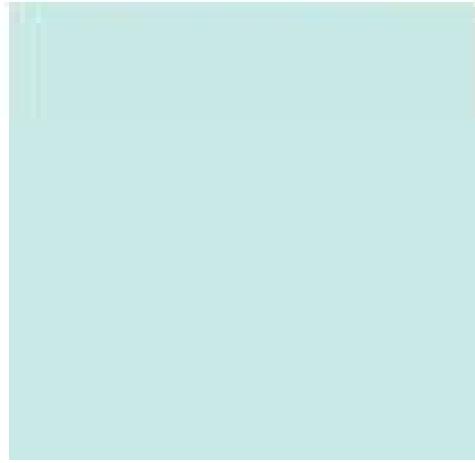
3.112 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has given a number of suggestions for effective implementation of the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 by strengthening monitoring mechanism through multiple memberships including NGOs in the National Inspection and Monitoring Committee, de-linking medical professional from Appropriate Authorities, suspension of errant clinics/doctors, system of incentives/decoy operations etc.

OTHER PROGRAMMES

Annual Report 2008-09



4



Other Programmes

Grant-in-aid for Research, Publication and Monitoring

4.1 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the scheme of grant-in-aid for research, publication and monitoring since 1986-87 with the objective to promote (i) research studies on emerging issues in the field of women and child development (ii) workshops / seminars which help in promoting awareness, discuss the problems and strategies to resolve the problems of women and children and (iii) publications on women and child related topics for wide dissemination of results.

4.2 Priority is given to research projects of an applied nature keeping in view the policy requirements of the Ministry, social problems requiring urgent public interventions and evaluation of the ongoing programmes. During 2008-09 the scheme had a budget allocation of Rs.4.12 crores and expenditure of Rs1.13 crores has been incurred. Funds released during 2008-09 to different organisations for new / old projects are detailed in **Annexure – XXXVI.**

Information and Mass Education Activities

4.3 The activities of Media Unit of the Ministry aims to generate awareness in the country about

issues concerning the development of women and children by giving wide publicity to the policies, programmes and development activities formulated and implemented by the Ministry. During 2008-09 a budget of Rs.58.00 crores was allocated for media activities of the Ministry.

4.4 A publicity campaign to inform, educate, and motivate people for bringing about attitudinal changes to achieve social development goals were launched. The focus of the campaign has been to mobilize public opinion on issues pertaining to girl child, gender equality, development of children, women's empowerment, early childhood development, nutrition, equal status for women and social evils like child marriage, dowry, trafficking, sexual abuse of girl child, exploitation of women and children etc. Multi media publicity was given to the issues through release of advertisements in prominent Hindi, English and regional languages, newspapers across the country. Telecast of spots on DD-I (National Network channels) and private TV channels were also implemented through DAVP.

Print Media

4.5 Following advertisements were issued in prominent newspapers in Hindi, English and regional languages across the country during the year 2008-09.

- i. Advertisement inviting comments and suggestions from all concerned on the Draft Guidelines on Adoption of Indian Children without Parental Care.
- ii. Advertisement on declining sex ratio, on the occasion of Mothers Day.
- iii. Advertisement in the memory of the legend Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi on his death anniversary.
- iv. Advertisement on the occasion of Independence Day Eve.
- v. Advertisement on Birth Anniversary of Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi
- vi. Advertisement on ‘Save the Girl Child / Gender Issue.
- vii. Advertisement on the occasion of the Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- viii. Advertisement on the occasion of Deepawali
- ix. Advertisement on Death Anniversary of Late Smt. Indira Gandhi.
- x. Advertisement on the occasion of Children’s Day.
- xi. Advertisement on Birth Anniversary of Late Smt. Indira Gandhi
- xii. Advertisement on the occasion of new year (1-1-2009).
- xiii. Advertisement on National Girl Child Day in North Eastern Region.
- xiv. Advertisement on 26-01-2009 on Domestic Violence in North Eastern Region.
- xv. Advertisement on International Women’s Day 2009

Television / All India Radio

4.6 Telecast of video spots on Doordarshan National Network , Private TV channels, Cinema Theaters and Indian Cricket League (ICL) 20-Twenty Grand Championship 2008-09 and broadcast of MWCD spots and Ananya Song in AIR / Pvt. FM Stations through Doordarshan, All India Radio and DAVP.

Quarterly Newsletter

4.7 In order to highlight the policies and development programmes formulated and implemented by this Ministry, a quarterly newsletter under the name and title ‘MWCD Newsletter SAMPARK’ is brought out regularly. Another monthly magazine “Anganvarta” is published from the month of November 2008 for use by Anganwadi Workers / Helpers at the Anganwadi Centers through out the country. This deals with issues relating to the policies and programmes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Participation of MWCD at India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2008

4.8 The Ministry participated in the IITF 2008 during the period 14th – 27th November 2008. Hall No.7 A,B,& C in Pragati Maidan was allotted by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) to the Ministry. The stalls in this Hall were allotted to participating SHGs listed with CSWB and RMK and their stalls were well stocked. The participating SHGs showcased their products during this period. As per the reports received from CSWB and RMK, the SHGs were satisfied about the quantum of sales. The Ministry also organized cultural programmes during this period in association

with Song & Drama Division. The Ministry also sponsored a Laser Show highlighting the themes of this Ministry through a documentary film and a beam show.

Innovative Work on Women and Children

4.9 In order to fulfil its commitments towards the cause of women and children in this Country, this Ministry has instituted **General Grant-in-aid Scheme**. Under this Scheme, projects of following nature are approved for execution by voluntary organisations / institutions, universities and research institutes, including those set up and funded by Central Government / State Government / Public Sector Undertakings / Local authority / Corporations / Institutions :

- i. Projects to tackle problem areas which are relatively unserviced but where need is urgent;
- ii. Projects, which fill in essential gaps in existing services and complement them so as to maximize the project;
- iii. Projects, which provide integrated services, where all the components need not be financially supported by one source;
- iv. Projects which build the capacity of the individual to be self-reliant rather than dependent;
- v. Projects located in backward, rural and tribal areas and urban slums which are poorly serviced by existing services;
- vi. Projects which are community based and render non-institutional services in certain cases where the nature of the problem so demands; Institutional programmes will also be supported;
- vii. Projects to mobilise public opinion and support to tackle pressing social problems;
- viii. Projects to tackle problems which require coverage of more than one State;
- ix. Projects not covered by any of the existing schemes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development including the Central Social Welfare Board.

During the year 2008-09, against the budget allocation of Rs. 6.88 crores, the expenditure under this scheme was Rs. 1.54 crores. Details of the Funds released under General Grant-in-Aid for innovative work on women and children are given in **Annexure-XXXVII**

Use of Hindi in Official Work

4.10 Hindi Section of the Ministry has been mandated to implement Official Language Policy of the Central Government. In pursuance of this policy, efforts were made during the period under report to maximize the use of Hindi in day-to-day official work of the Ministry. The officers and employees of the Ministry have working knowledge of Hindi. Entries in the Service Books were made in Hindi also. Letters received in Hindi were replied to in Hindi. Article 3(3) of the Official Language Act, 1963 is being complied with in the Ministry.

4.11 Copies of the Annual Programme brought out by the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs were circulated to all concerned for compliance. Quarterly Progress Reports received from the offices under the administrative control of this Ministry were reviewed and shortcomings, if any, were brought to their notice for taking appropriate remedial action. To review the progressive use of Hindi in the Ministry as well as in the offices under the administrative control of the Ministry, meetings of the Departmental Official Language Implementation Committee were held in the

Ministry and remedial measures to overcome the shortcomings were suggested. The last such meeting was held on 30.6.2008. Hindi Fortnight was celebrated in the Ministry from 12-26 September, 2008. During the period, Noting and Drafting, General Knowledge and Essay Writing competitions were organized. Eight officials have been awarded. Award Scheme to encourage the officials to work in Hindi was implemented during the year. Hindi software has been loaded in computers to facilitate working on computers in Hindi. The Second Meeting of Hindi Advisory Committee was held under the chairpersonship of Honorable MOS(IC), on 17 July, 2008 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

4.12 In addition to the above items of work relating to the implementation of Official Language policies, the important documents/material translated in Hindi during the period under the report include Annual Report 2007-08, Performance Budget (2007-08), material for Parliamentary Standing Committee, material relating to Compendium of the Schemes of Ministry, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Government of India, Brazil and South Africa in the field of programmes for Women Development and Gender Equity, replies to Parliament questions, Cabinet notes etc.

Information Technology (IT)

4.13 National Informatics Centre (NIC) is managing the Computer Centre of the Ministry of Women and Child Development which has a Pentium IV Processor based Windows NT Server, a Unix Server and a Local Area Network with facilities like information sharing, electronic mail and graphic user interface (GUI) based INTERNET surfing. NIC continued to provide software, hardware and consultancy support

to Ministry in developing computer based Management Information Systems. A team of officers of NIC works in close coordination with the officials of the Ministry to maintain existing software and develop new programmes. A brief description of some of the programmes introduced in 2008-09 by the Ministry with the help of NIC is as follows:

File Status Information System in Ministry

4.14 This system monitors important references received in the ministry. Basic details of the reference are entered into the system as soon as reference is received along with name of the officer to whom the file is marked.

NGO Grant Monitoring System

- **NGO Dak Diary** - The system tracks all proposals received under various grants-in-aid schemes and gives an on line status of action taken on the proposals. With the help of this system, NGOs can view the status of their proposals on their website
- **NGO Directory**- Records registration details and other particulars of all voluntary organizations implementing departmental schemes. The software generates a unique code for each NGO based upon the registration number, name and state so as to enable tracking of the performance under various schemes.
- **Reports** – Cover Scheme-wise/State-wise Projects, Pending/Rejected Cases, Outstanding Utilization Certificates, Geographical Coverage, Cash flows etc.

Central Adoption Resource Authority Portal

4.15 NIC designed and developed the software for monitoring adoption of children in-country and intra country through various agencies. The important portal on child adoption facilitates linking of children for adoption with aspirations of prospective parents. The entire process of child reaching adoption agency, various phases of clearances and medical tests and finally getting adopted apart from monitoring child in the new found adopted home are monitored. Various levels of training and hand holding sessions at five regional centres have been organized.

Budget Monitoring System

4.16 Budget Monitoring System was developed and implemented in the Finance wing of the Ministry. With the help of this package, the Ministry is capturing scheme wise details of funds sanctioned and released.

GIS Mapping of Schemes of the Ministry

4.17 The Ministry commissioned the National Informatics Centre to develop network based GIS application, integrating spatial data up to State, District and Village level and non-spatial data including MWCD data and census. This software maps all sanctioned projects under grants-in-aid schemes, up to the district level, to give a graphical depiction of regional spread of various schemes and identify areas requiring interventions. For example, the software enables listing of districts where no projects have been sanctioned under any scheme (like Working Women Hostel or Short Stay Homes) and lists all districts where no projects of Women and Child Development have been sanctioned so

far. This software will enable a more focused approach in planning for investments under various schemes.

National Resource Centre for Women

4.18 Schemes of various Central, State Government bodies and of Non-Government sector to large masses of population especially through modern IT gadgets are an essential and inevitable proposition. Taking advantages of IT innovations, NRCW portal has been launched totally on virtual cyber space for its location and access not only in India but across the entire world.

Intranet Based Integrated Office Automation

4.19 A web based application has been designed and developed for office automation procedures like Personnel Information, Office Orders/Circulars, Payroll, GPF, Income Tax, Leave Records, Official Forms, etc. The Ministry is updating the relevant data regularly and the employees are using this system to get their Circulars, Pay Slips, GPF Statements, IT Statements, Forms, etc. from this website directly. This system is developed using ASP and MS-SQL Server.

Web-Based Counseling and Information Portal

4.20 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has the mandate for holistic welfare, development and empowerment of women and children in the country. In this process it has been observed that there are a large number of issues and problems such as sexual assault, rape, domestic violence etc. faced by

women and children where authentic guidance and information is not available, as a result of which these groups often feel helpless and unable to cope with their emotional and physical trauma. Such problems, if unattended, may even lead the victims to take extreme measures of taking their own life or causing injury to themselves. There are also issues on which women seek guidance especially with regard to childhood care as well as economic empowerment. Many of these issues are such which require discretion and privacy for which special guidance and counseling access is required which not only provides the correct guidance but also ensures that the confidentiality of the person requiring the information is protected.

4.21 It is with this objective that the Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched a web-based counseling and information portal where specific issues related to four broad areas such as legal advise; guidance and counseling on problems relating to violence or abuse of women and children; information on various aspects of early childhood care and nutrition; as well as information on economic self sustenance and micro-finance are provided by a team of experts. The intent of the portal is to give access and opportunity to any person especially women or children who would like to receive information, counseling and guidance on specific problems faced by them. The portal is designed to ensure privacy and confidentiality

4.22 NIC provided assistance to the Parliament Section for regular on-line transmission of Parliament Questions to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

4.23 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has a website which is maintained by the NIC and updated periodically. Technical consultancy and guidance to various

organizations under the control of the Ministry are provided by NIC.

Right to Information Act

4.24 In pursuance of the provisions contained in sub section (1) of the Right to Information Act, 2005, the Ministry has designated subjectwise Public Information Officers at the level of Deputy Secretary / Director and Assistant Public Information Officers at the level of Under Secretary for receipt and disposal of applications received under the Act. In addition, officers of the level of Joint Secretary have been designated as appellate authorities in terms of sub-section (1) of section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 for considering appeals against the decisions of the PIOs. The details of Appellate Authority and PIOs / APIOs have been posted on the official web site of the Ministry.

4.25 Under RTI Act, 255 applications were received from the applicants during the year 2008-09 which were sent to the Central Public Information Officers of this Ministry for sending replies to the applicants.

Annual Plan and Action Plan

4.26 The Plan and Non-Plan outlays for the year 2008-09 were fixed at Rs.7200.00 crore and Rs. 60.00 crore respectively. The revised outlays (Plan) have been fixed at Rs.6850 crore whereas Non-Plan have been revised to Rs. 69.00 crores. Scheme-wise details are given at **Annexure - XXXVIII**. The Ministry prepared the Annual Action Plan (AAP) for the schemes and activities of the Department, setting out the targets, both financial and physical, for the four quarters of the year. The Ministry completed the exercise for the preparation of the Annual Plan 2009-10. The Plan was discussed in the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission allocated an interim

outlay of Rs. 7200.00 crores under plan for the Ministry for the year 2009-10.

Plan for the North-East Region

4.27 As per the guidelines of the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry has allocated 10% of the Annual Plan outlay for the implementation of its programmes in the seven North-Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura and the State of Sikkim. During the year efforts were made to involve social organisations of North East with the existing support available under various grants-in-aid schemes of the Ministry of Women & Child Development.

Special Component Plan (SCP) for SC and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)

4.28 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 programmes are located in the areas where the women and children belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC & ST) populations have easy access to the benefits of these services. Although pre-quantification of flow of funds and benefits to SC/ST population is not workable, however, the basic consideration under all the schemes of the Ministry is to ensure that the benefits of the schemes flow to the disadvantaged sections of the SC/ST population, women and children. 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, i.e. scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and families in absolute poverty.

4.29 The Ministry has been implementing one of the largest area based scheme of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS). This is perhaps the world's largest programme for holistic development of the child. More than 2/3rd of the Ministry's annual budget is earmarked for ICDS. The Annual Plan outlay for 2008-09 is Rs.6300.00 crores (BE) for Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS). The scheme is being implemented in backward rural areas, tribal areas and urban slums. The ICDS envisages provision of vital child development services to most vulnerable groups in disadvantaged areas with a focus on:

- a. Areas inhabited pre-dominantly by SCs.
- b. Areas inhabited by tribes particularly backward tribes.
- c. Areas inhabited by minorities.

4.30 As on 30.6.2008, under 6108 operationalised ICDS projects, the out-reach of the services is being extended to 838.22 lakh of beneficiaries (pregnant & lactating mothers and children below 6 years of age) out of which more than 30% beneficiaries belong to SC & ST population.

4.31 The Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) made the following stipulations under their grant-in-aid rules to encourage voluntary action in tribal areas:

- i. Normally, only such institutions are eligible for grant-in-aid from the Board, which are engaged in Social Welfare activities for a minimum period of three years. This condition is relaxed in the case of institutions located in tribal areas.
- ii. Institutions are normally given assistance under the grant-in-aid programme on an equal matching basis (50% grant from the Board and other 50% raised by the

institutions). In regard to the institutions in tribal areas, the Board allows grants up to 75% of the approved expenditure and in certain deserving cases, grants even up to 95%.

- iii. Similarly, under the scheme of Condensed Courses of Education for Adult Women, the institutions are required to make efforts to enroll scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe women for the course. In the case of SC and ST candidates, conditions regarding educational qualifications for admission to the courses are relaxed wherever necessary. Records are kept of the SCs and STs admitted to these courses.

4.32 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. Under various training, employment and education programmes for women, the Ministry is implementing the schemes of Support for Training and Employment Programme (STEP) and Setting up of Employment-cum-Income Generation Training-cum-production units for

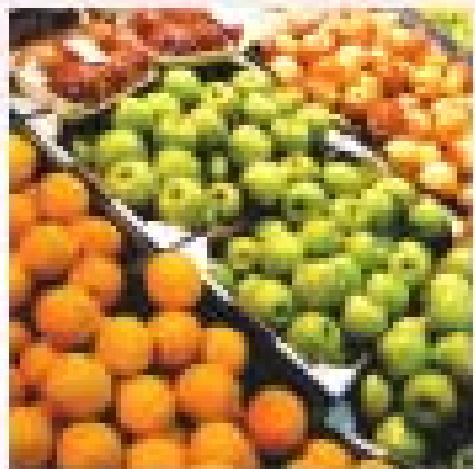
Women, under which training is given to women to upgrade skill, knowledge in traditional as well as non-traditional trades. The implementation agencies are directed by the Department to enroll more SC/ST women.

4.33 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 (CFNEU) of FNB are organizing 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.

4.34 Most of the programmes of Ministry, particularly, those for women, are implemented through voluntary organizations. Efforts are made to encourage more and more voluntary organizations to come forth with proposals to start welfare programmes in tribal and backward rural areas by extending special concessions and relaxations under grant-in-aid.

FOOD AND NUTRITION BOARD

Annual Report 2008-09



Ministry of Women & Child Development

Food and Nutrition Board

5.1 The Food & Nutrition Board (FNB) which was set up in 1964 is an attached office of the Ministry of Women & Child Development and has a countrywide set up. FNB provides a wide range of Nutrition Education & Extension services, with the stated objectives of building-up a systematic campaign to overcome the difficult barrier of ignorance, prejudice and superstition in food and dietary habits. The non-plan infrastructure of the Food & Nutrition Board comprises a technical wing at the Centre, 4 Regional Head Offices and Quality Control

Laboratories at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai and 43 Community Food & Nutrition Extension Units (CFNEUs) located in 29 States/UTs as detailed at **Annexure - XXXIX**.

5.2. Malnutrition is a complex phenomenon. It is both the cause and effect of poverty and ill health, and follows a cyclical, inter-generational pattern. Lack of adequate information on nutritional needs, has been identified as a major factor for the prevailing nutritional situation in the country. Nutrition education and extension



Honourable Speaker, Lok Sabha, Sri Somnath Chatterjee and Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MOS (IC), MWCD on the occasion of inauguration of exhibition during National Nutrition Week at India Gate lawns in Sept. 2008

has been recognized as one of the long-term sustainable interventions essential to tackle the problem of malnutrition and to generate awareness and to promote the nutrition status of the country. FNB's major task is to address this major challenge.

5.3. The Food & Nutrition Board, which has been recognized by the Planning Commission in its 11th Five Year Plan document as one of the key players to reduce the malnutrition level in the country in the last five decades, is engaged in the following activities:

- Nutrition Education and Training, both for the masses and for ICDS functionaries,
- Mass Nutrition Awareness Campaigns,
- Development, production and distribution of nutrition education / training material,

- Food Analysis and Standardization,
- Training in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables and Nutrition,
- Providing Fruits & Vegetable Processing facilities at CFNEUs,
- Development and Promotion of locally available Nutritious Foods,
- Follow up action on National Nutrition Policy.

5.4 Nutrition Education of the community, one of the prime activities of the Food & Nutrition Board, is undertaken through its 43 Community Food & Nutrition Extension Units (CFNEUs), by organizing nutrition education and demonstration programmes in rural, urban and tribal areas in different States/ UTs of the



Venue of celebration of National Nutrition Week in Sept. 2008 on India Gate lawns, New Delhi

country. These CFNEUs are equipped with a mobile van, audio visual aids / equipments and are manned by technical personnel to undertake these activities. FNB Headquarters, through its four Regional Offices, provides the technical as well as logistic support for the functioning of these units.

Nutrition Education & Awareness for ICDS Functionaries

5.5 In order to reach nutrition messages to the community, utilizing the vast network of Anganwadi workers in the country, Food and Nutrition Board undertakes capacity building of ICDS personnel by organizing the short term training of these functionaries. This programme envisages advocacy on nutrition and sensitization of implementing agencies and field functionaries of the ICDS and health department, grass root level workers and beneficiaries themselves on important issues in nutrition. The technical officers/officials of the field units of Food and Nutrition Board are associated with ICDS Training, conducted by the Middle Level Training Centers (MLTCs) and Anganwadi Training Centres (AWTCs), as the resource persons in nutrition.

5.6 The Community Food Nutrition and Extension Units (CFNEUs) inspect the “supplementary nutrition” and “nutrition and health education” components of the ICDS in their areas of operation. The technical staff of CFNEUs during the course of inspection at Anganwadi Center (AWC) provides technical support to the infrastructure of the AWCs. The observations are communicated to the respective State Secretaries in-charge of WCD at the headquarter level also. During the year 2008-09, a total number of 4400 anganwadis have been inspected.

5.7 Training of Trainers (TOT) Programme: Each CFNEU organizes five days “Training of Trainers” programme for Master Trainers comprising of Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs), Assistant Child Development Project Officers (ACDPOs), Medical Officers, Lady Health Visitors, Senior Supervisors of ICDS etc. who, in turn, act as trainers for the grass-root level functionaries of ICDS, such as Anganwadi workers and the community at large. The five days training programme covers various issues related to nutrition of infants, young children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, and various forms of malnutrition, like under-nutrition and deficiency of micronutrients such as iron, folic acid, vitamin A and iodine. Each CFNEU organizes one TOT course for 20 master trainers in each quarter of the year. During the year 2008-09, a total number of 160 training courses have been organized benefiting 3200 master trainers.

5.8 Orientation Training Courses (OTCs): The technical staff of each CFNEU organizes three Orientation Training Courses (OTC) of two days duration in each quarter of the year. 30 participants comprising grass-root level functionaries from ICDS, Health and NGOs are trained in the field of nutrition during the course. During the year 2008-09, a total number of 490 training courses have been organized and 17700 grassroot level functionaries have been oriented.

Training in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables and Nutrition

5.9 Vegetables and fruits are good sources of micronutrients and of several phytonutrients, which have now been shown to promote health, prevent micronutrient deficiencies and prevent

diseases. The CFNEUs organize one-week training courses in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits & Vegetables and Nutrition for the housewives and adolescent girls to encourage them to preserve fruits and vegetables during the glut season at the household level. This also increases the consumption of fruits and vegetables, which provide much needed micronutrients as well as skills, which could be useful for income generation. During the training course, methods for preparation of instant weaning/ supplementary foods for infants and young children from roasted cereals, pulses and oilseeds are also taught. Each CFNEU organizes one / two training courses per month and train 30 participants in each batch. A Ready Reckoner on essentials of preservation and nutrition is distributed to the trainees on completion of the training.

5.10 Under the Accelerated Programme for Development of SC/ST Community all the CFNEUs are also organizing one week special training courses in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits & Vegetables and Nutrition exclusively for SC/ST adolescent girls and women. A stipend of Rs.100/- is given to each candidate so as to enable her to meet the expenditure on the raw material required for the training purpose.

5.11 Processing facilities to preserve the fruits & vegetables in different forms are also provided to the community at these CFNEUs at very nominal charges. The members of the community can bring the raw material at the unit and get their preserved products prepared under the technical guidance of the staff. During the year 2008-09, a total number of 512 training courses have been organized benefiting 15,360 beneficiaries comprising of adolescent girls, housewives, students. A total number of 120 training courses have been organized benefiting 3600 SC/ST beneficiaries.

5.12 Nutrition Education Programmes in Rural areas/ Urban slums/ Tribal areas: Nutritional well-being is a sustainable force for Health and Development for maximization of human genetic potential. In fact, the measurement of national development is by nutrition and health indicators. The nutritional status of the community has, therefore, been recognized as an important indicator of national development. In other words, malnutrition is an impediment in national development and hence assumed the status of national problem and not merely a sectoral problem. It may also be mentioned that the Plan document also states that the major thrust would be to undertake massive health and nutrition education to encourage appropriate dietary intake and healthy life styles among all segments of population. Nutrition Education Programmes are being undertaken in Rural and Tribal Areas and Urban Slums. During the year 2008-09, a total number of 4520 Programmes have been organized covering 1,35,600 beneficiaries.

Mass Nutrition Awareness Campaigns

5.13 Nationwide celebration of events like World Breast Feeding Week (1-7 August) National Nutrition Week (1-7 September), World Food Day (16th October), Global Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) Prevention Day (21st October), Universal Children's Day (14th November), International Women's Day (8th March) etc. were organized on specific themes, with the active cooperation of respective State Governments, educational institutions, NGOs and media. Workshops, special nutrition education programmes, telecast / broadcast of video and audio spots on nutrition, coverage of events through All India Radio, Doordarshan

and Press were some of the events conducted during the celebration period.

5.14 Dissemination of nutrition information to the masses was also undertaken by organizing exhibitions on nutrition in the prestigious melas / fairs. During the year 2008-09, the field units of the FNB organized a number of exhibitions on nutrition at different events/occasions.

5.15 The Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) participated in the Food Technology Expo 2008 organized on 3rd-5th May, 2008 at New Delhi. A Nutrition Exhibition displaying the Nutrition Scenario in the Country, Nutritious diets for different age groups with live demonstrations, helped in creating Nutrition Awareness among the visitors and VIPs who visited the Expo. Handouts and the Nutrition Calendars were distributed to the visitors.

5.16 A historic exhibition on Nutrition was organized on the theme **Invest in Child Nutrition** in the lawns of India Gate from 5-7 September, 2008 at New Delhi. The exhibition was inaugurated by Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha Shri Somnath Chatterjee, in the presence of Hon'ble Minister of State for Women & Child Development (Independent Charge) Smt. Renuka Chowdhury. The exhibition depicted the present levels of malnutrition in the country, nutritious diets for different age groups, especially for children, adolescent girls, pregnant and nursing mothers.

5.17 The Song and Drama Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting made the exhibition lively and attractive for the masses wherein folk dances, role plays, magic shows, regional songs carrying nutrition messages were performed by the Cultural Troupes. Nutrition quiz and games were played by the visitors and the enthusiasm among the people made the exhibition a success. Nutrition messages were

interlaced during these programmes and handouts on Nutrition were distributed to the visitors.

5.18 FNB put up **two exhibition stalls in Agriculture Today--Leadership Summit 2008 organized on 19-20 September, 2008** at Hotel Taj Palace, New Delhi. The stalls were visited by the eminent scientists, parliamentarians/Union Ministers and other distinguished members. The exposures presented in the stalls were very informative and widely appreciated by all the visiting dignitaries.

5.19 The Food and Nutrition Board of the Ministry put up an impressive and informative **exhibition at the IITF-2008 Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, w.e.f. 14-27 November, 2008**. The visitors were made aware about the good dietary food habits for good health by displaying nutritious diets for all age groups and the handouts, leaflets were distributed to the visitors at the stalls. The Body Mass Index of the general public was measured and the correct advice was given to all for healthy food habits. A general eye check-up was also arranged at the stalls for the visitors and suitable advices were given to all. A very popular programme on Nutrition Quiz was organized on daily basis for the public and prizes were given to 20 winners daily mainly to children.

5.20 10 CFNEUs organized 82 mini-exhibitions in the respective States. 26 video shows and 19 slide shows on different aspects of nutrition education were organised for the general public in rural/urban areas.

Advertisement Campaign

5.21 A systematic media campaign has been launched by publishing the ads with nutrition messages in popular national dailies in Hindi, English, Urdu and regional languages.

Development, production and distribution of nutrition education / training material

- The IYCF Guidelines and Ready Reckoner on Fruit & Vegetable Preservation & Nutrition in regional languages has been reprinted and distributed.
- A seven page wall calendar for the year 2009 on the theme “Good Nutrition: Education for Healthy Life Style”, carrying nutrition messages, particularly for infants, children, adolescents and women has been printed and distributed to the State Governments, National Institutions, Medical Colleges, Home Science Colleges, Social Organizations, AWCs, hospitals etc.
- The Food & Nutrition Board has also developed two audio-video spots each of

30-second duration in Hindi, English and Regional languages on ‘Nutrition of Girl Child and Adolescent Girl’ to broadcast and telecast on AIR & Doordarshan.

Celebrations

World Breastfeeding Week

5.22 The World Breastfeeding Week was observed from 1st to 7th August 2008 on the global theme of **“Mother’s support: Going to the Gold”** by all the CFNEUs, throughout the country. The FNB headquarter supported the celebration by providing background information and necessary guidance to all the field units and Regional Offices with a view to disseminate the importance of breast-feeding. State level workshops in 29 States, orientation training on infant and young child feeding,



Demonstration Programme of Food and Nutrition Board during World Breast-feeding Week



Exhibiting balanced food during National Nutrition Week held at India Gate Lawns during September 2008

awareness generation camps and community meetings were organized by the FNB field infrastructure. Print Media, All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan covered programmes throughout the country. Three audio & video spots on infant and young child feeding were broadcast/telecast during the Week from primary channels of AIR, Commercial Broadcasting Station (CBS), FM channels and Doordarshan. One half page colored advertisement has been published in the National Dailies in Hindi, English and all Regional languages on the theme of the week, which has been appreciated by the senior officers and eminent political personalities, masses, including scientists

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 Week is "Invest in Child Nutrition." Good nutrition is the material basis for human resource development of a country or a community; nutrition is an issue of survival, health and development for current and succeeding generations. Children born healthy have strong immune function and decrease risk of diseases such as diabetes and heart disease in their later life. Well-nourished children tend to have higher I.Q. and better cognitive ability which improves their school performance and then the productivity in their later life. Such a cycle of nutrition and development is widely acknowledged and has very strong influence in policy making. It has to be realized that the nutritional health in all age groups especially children, represents a national economic asset.

National Nutrition Week

5.23 The National Nutrition Week is celebrated every year since 1982 so as to intensify

Food Analysis and Standardization

5.24 Food & Nutrition Board has four Quality Control Laboratories at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, which analyze various supplementary foods, consumed in feeding programmes under ICDS scheme. The samples are received from the State Governments as well as field units of FNB, collected by them during the course of regular inspection of AWCs. The QCLs of FNB are also analyzing the processed fruits and vegetables products under the regulation of quality control of these products for domestic consumption as well as for export. These samples are received from Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

5.25 FNB renders technical expertise on food quality and standardization of various committees of Department of Health, including Codex and BIS. FNB organized two Shadow Committee Meetings of Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU), under the chairpersonship of Joint Secretary (Nutrition) in the Ministry and prepared the India's viewpoints on the agenda items for 30th Session of Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNSFDU) held from 3-7 November, 2008 at Cape Town, South Africa. The Indian delegation was headed by Shri Mahesh C. Arora, Director, MWCD for this Session.

Other Important Events

5.26 During 2008-09, FNB undertook following events: -

- A Meeting of the **Food and Nutrition Board Advisory Committee** was held

under the Chairmanship of Secretary, WCD on 17th April, 2008 to discuss the activities of the Food and Nutrition Board, its strengthening, expansion and also to work out the modalities and interventions to reduce the present levels of malnutrition in the country.

- Third Meeting of the Executive Committee of the **National Nutrition Mission** was held on 8th July, 2008 under the **Chairpersonship of Smt. Renuka Chowdhury**, Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Women & Child Development to discuss the issues regarding malnutrition, fortification of food with micronutrients and expansion of FNB upto district level.
- A one day **Working Group meeting on Adoption of New WHO Child Growth Standards** was organized on 22nd October, 2008 to finalize the strategies for training of ICDS and Health functionaries on new Child Growth Standards.
- In order to realize the commitments of the National Nutrition Policy and the National Plan of Action on Nutrition as well as to implement the recommendations of the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) a task Force was set up under the Chairmanship of the Secretary (WCD). **The 1st Meeting of this Task Force** was held on 18.11.2008 under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of WCD with the aim of suggesting strategies and interventions of food fortification. The meeting was attended by the members, experts and senior officers of the concerned Ministries of Government of India.

Achievement of Community Food & Nutrition Extension Units (CFNEUS) in Respect of Nutrition Education & Training Activities during the year 2007-08 & 2008-09

S. No.	Activity	AAP Achievements 2007-08	AAP Achievements 2008-09
1.	Training in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits & Vegetables and Nutrition		
a.	Total No. of Training Courses organized	559	512
b.	Total No. of trainees (adolescent girls, housewives, students and others)	17950	15360
c.	No. of courses organized exclusively for SC/ST community	128	120
d.	No. of trainees of SC/ST community	3840	3600
2.	Monitoring of Supplementary Feeding and NHE component of ICDS		
a.	No. of Inspections of ICDS AWCs conducted	4558	4400
3.	Training in Nutrition Education for ICDS Personnel		
a.	No. of Master Trainer courses organized (TOTs)	166	160
b.	No. of Master trainers trained	3269	3200
c.	No. of Orientation Training Courses organized (OTCs)	496	490
d.	No. of grass root level functionaries oriented	14056	14700
4.	Nutrition Education Programmes in Rural areas / Urban slums / Tribal areas	4652	4520

GENDER BUDGETING

Annual Report 2008-09



6



Ministry of Women & Child Development

Gender Budgeting

6.1 The goals of human development are closely intertwined with development and empowerment of women, who, as an independent group constitute about 496 million (2001 Census) representing 48 percent of the total population of India. They not only constitute valuable human resources of the country but their development in the socio economic arena sets pace for sustainable growth of the economy.

Box 1—Gender and Sex

Gender is culturally and socially constructed roles, responsibilities, privileges, relations and expectations of women and men, boys and girls and changes with time and from place to place.

Sex refers to biological differences between the male and female of the species. It remains unchanged.

6.2 However, even after over six decades of Independence, a significant number of women face disparities in access and control over resources. These disparities get reflected in important social development indicators such as health, nutrition, literacy, educational attainments, skill levels, occupational status etc. In addition, there are a number of gender specific barriers that prevent women from gaining access to their rightful share in the flow of public goods and services.

Box 2—Gender Perspective of a Common Person

A Woman's Worth....

During a workshop in Rajasthan, a man was asked whether his wife worked. He said she was useless and did nothing. She woke up at 4 am every morning; milked the cow; collected firewood, water etc. and cooked for family, sent her children to school, took the animals for grazing; cut fodder; look after the elders in the family; cleaned the dishes and finally went to bed after the entire household had retired.

Unless these gender requirements and their felt needs are incorporated and mainstreamed in the planning and development process of the country, it is likely that the benefits of economic growth will completely bypass a significant section of the country's population which does not augur well for the future growth of the economy.

What is Gender Budgeting—a definition

6.3 Gender Budgeting is understood as a dissection of the Government budget to establish its gender-differential impacts and to translate gender commitments into budgetary commitments. Thus Gender Budgeting: -

Box 3

Policy Commitments for Women

Constitutional Provisions

The commitment to gender equity is well entrenched at the highest policy making level- the Constitution of India. A few important provisions for women are:

- Article 14 – Equal Rights and Opportunities in Political Economic and Social Spheres
- Article 15 – Prohibits discrimination on grounds of sex
- Article 15(3) – Enables affirmative discrimination in favour of women
- Article 39 – Equal means of livelihood and equal pay for equal work
- Article 42 – Just and Humane conditions of work and maternity relief
- Article 51(A)(e) – Fundamental Duty to renounce practices, derogatory to dignity of women

The **National Policy for Empowerment of Women 2001** envisaged introduction of a gender perspective in the budgeting process as a operational strategy.

These provisions are effected and supplemented by the legal framework. A few laws and legislations are:

Women specific Legislations

- Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956
- The Maternity Benefit Act 1961
- The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986
- The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987
- Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005

Economic

- Factories Act 1948
- Minimum Wages Act 1948
- Equal Remuneration Act 1976
- The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948,
- The Plantation Labour Act, 1951
- The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act 1976

Protection

- Relevant provisions of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973
- Special provisions under IPC
- The Legal Practitioners (Women) Act, 1923
- The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994.

Social

- Family Courts Act, 1984
- The Indian Succession Act, 1925
- The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act 1971
- Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006
- The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955
- The Hindu Succession Act, 1956 (& amended in 2005)
- The Indian Divorce Act, 1969

- Looks at Government budget from a gender perspective to assess how it addresses the needs of women in all sectors
- It does not seek to create a separate budget but to provide affirmative action to address the specific needs of women
- Gender responsive budgeting initiatives provide a way for assessing the impact of government revenue and expenditure on women.

6.4 Gender Budgeting is a process that entails maintaining a gender perspective at various stages like programme/policy formulation, assessment of needs of target groups, review of extant policies and guidelines, allocation of resources, implementation of programmes, impact assessment, reprioritization of resources

Box 4

What technology means for Women:

- A bus designed without seats to carry vegetables, goats etc.
- Cotton cloth designed for different uses- Cradle, Carry seeds, fodder etc.
- Low cost disposable sanitary napkins.
- Women friendly protective shoes in salt brines.
- Department of Science and Technology

and so on. **A gender sensitive budget is the culmination of this process.**

6.5 Gender Budgeting lends itself to strengthening administrative processes and actions to achieve the targets for improvement in

Box 5

Gender Budgeting and Five-Year Plan

The plan documents have over the years reflected the evolving trends in gender matters. Formal earmarking of funds for women began with the Women's Component Plan. However, gender sensitivity in allocation of resources starts with the Seventh Plan

- The Seventh Plan introduced the concept of monitoring of 27 beneficiary oriented schemes for women.
- The Eighth Plan (1992-97) highlighted for the first time a gender perspective and the need to ensure a definite flow of funds from the general developmental sectors to women. The Plan document made an express statement that "...the benefits to development from different sectors should not bypass women and special programmes on women should be complement the general development programmes. The later, in turn, should reflect great gender sensitivity".
- The Ninth Plan (1997-2002) adopted the 'Women's Component Plan' as one of the major strategies and directed both the Central and State Governments to ensure "not less than 30 per cent of the funds/benefits are earmarked in all the women's related sectors. Special vigil advocated on the flow of the earmarked funds/benefits through an effective mechanism to ensure that the proposed strategy brings forth a holistic approach towards empowering women."
- The Tenth Plan reinforces commitment to gender budgeting to establish its gender-differential impact and to translate gender commitments into budgetary commitments. It states "--the Tenth plan will continue the process of dissecting the Government budget to establish its gender -differential impact and to translate gender commitments into budgetary commitments. ----the Tenth Plan will initiate immediate action in tying up these two effective concepts of Women Component Plan and Gender Budgeting to play a complementary role to each other , and thus ensure both preventive and post facto action in enabling women to receive their rightful share from all the women – related general development sectors."
- The Eleventh Plan clearly states' 'gender equity requires adequate provisions to be made in policies and schemes across Ministries and Departments . It also entails strict adherence to gender budgeting across the board'.

the position of women. It not only entails a look at allocation of resources for women but goes beyond to cover tracking the utilization of allocated resources, impact analysis and beneficiary incidence analysis of public expenditure and policy from a gender perspective.

Why is Gender Mainstreaming important

6.6 The bulk of the public expenditure and policy concerns lie in ‘gender neutral’ sectors like power, defence, petroleum, transport etc and the implications for women in these sectors are not recognized or identified. It is increasingly being felt that unless gender concerns are also mainstreamed in these sectors, public expenditure will always be skewed disadvantageously towards women. Hence the imperative need for gender mainstreaming as natural outcome of gender budgeting.

Box 6

Income generation for Tsunami Victims

Crab and lobster tracking technology was developed for elderly and widowed fisherwomen where the cages are left in the water. It ensured good catch and income went up from Rs. 300 to Rs. 2000 over a period of time.

Department of Earth Sciences

6.7 The importance of Gender Budgeting has been stressed time and again in different forums. To provide further impetus to this objective, the Finance Minister in 2004-05 had mandated the setting up of Gender Budgeting Cells in all Ministries/ Departments and highlighted the perceived need for budget data to be presented in a manner that brought out the gender sensitiveness of the budgetary allocations. This was followed by a more emphatic

commitment in the Budget speech of 2005-06, wherein the Gender budgetary allocations was reflected in a two-way classified Gender Budgeting Statement in the Union Budget—The first part of the Statement, Part A, indicated those Ministries/Departments which identified allocation of 100% for Schemes/Programmes flowing to women and second part, i.e., Part B listed Schemes/Programmes with 30- to 99% allocation for women. The following table shows the allocations for women as reflected in the Gender Budget Statement over the years.

Year	No. of Ministries (No. of Demands)	Total Magnitude of Gender Budget (BE) (crore)
2005-06	9 (10)	14378.68 (2.79 %)
2006-07	18 (24)	28736.53 (5.09%)
2007-08	27 (33)	31177.96 (4.5%)
2008-09	27 (33)	27661.67 (3.68%)

Box 7

There is no Sector which is Gender Neutral

Department of Space

- Village Resource Centre broadcasts through space on malnutrition, health etc.
- EDUSAT and GRAMSAT taking information and education to remote areas.

Department of Commerce

- Gender Implications for Women in SEZ projects and WTO agreements.

Department of Atomic Energy

- Nuclear Medicine for treatment of thyroid, uterine, ovarian cancer etc
- Energy requirements for women

6.8 There was an apparent fall in the gender budget allocation for women between 2005-06 and 2006-07 on account of a more accurate reflection of the actual amounts flowing to women through Programmes and Schemes. The percent of estimated allocation to women further fell in the Year 2008-09 because of the introduction of Statement on Child Budgeting in the Union Budget, i.e., Statement 22. Several schemes which contributed significantly to the total allocations for women, such as Integrated Child Development of MWCD and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan of the Ministry of Human Resource Development which were earlier reflected in the Gender Budget Statement were shifted to Statement 22. Refinement of the Gender Budget Statements to reflect accurately the allocations earmarked for women and girls is an ongoing process.

6.9 The Ministry of Finance in consultation with the Ministry of Women and Child Development has also issued a Gender Budget Charter on March 8, 2007. The Charter lays down guidelines for composition and functions of the Gender Budgeting Cell.

“Budgeting for Gender Equity” - A Mission Statement

6.10 The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) as the nodal agency for Gender Budgeting has been undertaking several initiatives for empowerment of women. In this context the Ministry has honed Gender Budgeting as a tool for achieving the goals and targets enshrined for women in our Constitution and Plans and Policies. In 2004-05 the Ministry adopted **“Budgeting for Gender Equity”** as a Mission Statement. **A Strategic Framework of Activities** to implement this mission was also framed and disseminated across all Departments of Government of India.

6.11 **Critical activities** constituting the gender budgeting exercise include

- a) Addressing gap between policy commitment and allocation for women through adequate resource allocation and gender sensitive programme formulation and implementation

Box 8

CHARTER OF GENDER BUDGET CELLS

Composition of Gender Budget Cells

The Gender Budget Cell should comprise a cohesive group of senior/ middle level officers from the Plan, Policy, Coordination, Budget and Accounts Division of the Ministry concerned. This group should be headed by an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary. The functions and working of the GRB may be reviewed at least once a quarter at the level of Secretary/ Additional Secretary of the Department.

Functions of Gender Budget Cells

The GBC may set for itself, specific quarterly / half yearly/ annual targets to be achieved in terms of the following suggested areas of work.

- (1) Identification of a minimum of 3 and maximum of 6 largest programmes (in terms of budget allocation) implementation by the Ministry and the major Sub –Programmes there under, with a view to conducting an analysis of the gender issues addressed by them.

(Contd.)

- This is to be facilitated by describing the current situation with respect to the Sub-Programme (using disaggregated data in terms of beneficiaries as much as possible) and describing the activities for achieving the given output.
- Output indicators may be identified for measurement against performance in the coming year.
- Activities targeted at improving the situation of women under these programmes may be highlighted. In this regard, an assessment may be made of the extent to which sectoral policies address the situation of women, whether budget allocation are adequate to implement the gender responsive policy; monitoring whether the money was actually spent as planned, what was delivered and to whom; and whether the policy as implemented changed the situation described, in the direction of promoting/ achieving greater gender equality.
- Results of this analysis may be included as an annex titled “Gender Responsive Budgeting Initiative” in the Ministry’s Outcome/ Performance Budget for the year.
- GBCs of such Ministries/ Departments which have identified programmes where 100% of the budgetary allocation for the scheme is earmarked to benefit women, may undertake a similar analysis as described above. Results of this analysis may also be included in the Ministry’s Department’s Outcome/ Performance budget for the year.

- (2) Conducting / Commissioning Performance audit (at the field level wherever possible) for reviewing the actual physical/ financial targets of the programme, the constraints if any, in implementation, the need for strengthening delivery systems, infrastructure/ capacity building etc.
- (3) Organizing meetings / discussions / consultations with GBCs of related departments within the Ministry, field level organization / civil society groups/ NGOs working in the sector for exchanging ideas and getting feedback on the efficacy of sectoral policies and programmes.
- (4) Suggesting further policy interventions based on findings of the above.
- (5) Participating in and organizing Training/ Sensitization/ Capacity Building workshops for officials, concerned with formulation of policy/ programme implementation & budget and accounts at the Ministerial level and also in the implementing agencies / attached / subordinate offices and organizations under the administrative control of the Ministry.
- (6) Apparently “gender neutral” programmes are not necessarily gender neutral in the impact they have, when seen through gender lens. Hence, in sectors like Defence, Power, Telecom, Communications, Transport and Industry, etc. GBCs may undertake an exercise to identify the possibility of undertaking initiatives/ special measures to facilitate/ improve access to services for women and their active participation in the decision making process at various levels.
- (7) Disseminate best practices followed by those Divisions of the Department/ Ministry implementing schemes, which have done good work in analyzing the schemes/ programmes from gender perspective which have brought about changes in policy/ operational guidelines.
- (8) Prepare a Chapter on Gender perspective related to the Sector / Service covered by the Ministry and the impact of the existing policies / programmes and resources employed in meeting the specific needs of women for reflection in the Ministry’s Outcome / Performance Budget.

Box 9

Mission statement- “Budgeting for Gender Equity”

Broad framework of activities

- ***Quantification of allocation of resources for women in the Union, States and Local Administration budgets and expenditure thereof.***
 - Refining and standardizing methodology and development of tools.
 - Trend Analysis
 - Analysis of change in pattern, shift in priorities in allocation across clusters of services etc
 - Variations in allocation of resources and actual expenditure
 - Adherence to physical targets
- ***Gender Audit of policies of the Government- monetary, fiscal, trade etc. at the Centre and State levels***
 - Research and micro studies to guide macro policies like credit policy, taxes etc
 - Identification of gender impact of policies/interventions viewed as gender neutral
 - Micro studies to identify need for affirmative action in favour of women towards correcting gender imbalances
- ***Impact assessment of various schemes in the Union and State budgets***
 - Micro studies on incidence of benefits
 - Analysis of cost of delivery of services
- ***Analyzing programmes, strategies, interventions and policy initiatives from the perspective of their impact on status of women as reflected in important Macro Indicators*** like literacy, MMR, participation in work force
 - E.g.- analysis of substance and content of various interventions directed at health of women and correlate the same with indicator like MMR to establish need for corrective action in formulation of scheme/ approach.
- ***Institutionalizing the generation and collection of gender dis-aggregated data***
 - Developing MIS for feed back from implementing agencies
 - Inclusion of new parameters in data collection in Census and surveys by NSO, CSO etc
- ***Consultations and Capacity building***
 - Collation of research and exchange of best practices
 - Developing methodologies and tools for dissemination
 - Forums and Partnerships amongst experts and stakeholders.
- ***Review of decision making processes to establish gender equity in participation-*** review of extant participation of women in decision making processes and to establish processes and models aimed at gender equity in decision making and greater participation of women.
- Formulation and reflection of **satellite accounts** to capture the contribution of women to the economy by way of their activities in areas that go unreported like care economy, unpaid work in rearing domestic animals etc.

- b) Mainstreaming gender concerns in public expenditure and policy
- c) Gender audit of public expenditure, programme implementation and policies

of programmes and policies to cover women and to enable suitable corrective action.

b) Gender Based Profile of Public Expenditure

Preparation of the Gender Based profile (Box 10) facilitates review of all schemes and public expenditure from a gender perspective and isolating the gender component by way of expenditure and physical targets. The profile would give a clear situational analysis of constraints like non availability of Gender disaggregated data, need to determine reasons for non adherence to targeted expenditure on women etc. Trend of the gender component, allocation and expenditure, is indicative of extent to which budgeting is gender responsive.

Tools of Gender Budgeting

6.12 The tools of Gender budgeting that have been disseminated by the MWCD in Workshops/ Orientations, are indicated below:

a) Guidelines for Gender Sensitive Review of Public Expenditure and Policy

Specific guidelines have been formulated by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in the form of *Checklists I and II* (Box 11 and

Box 10- Gender based profile of Public Expenditure

Programme	Expected Outcome/Objective	Gender Component of Programme / Sub programme	Total Public Expenditure (Rs)	Public Expenditure on women / girls (Rs)		Gender Disaggregated Beneficiaries (extent of benefits to women)	Remarks
		By Definition or practice	GOI State	GOI State		Physical targets and performance i.e. number of female beneficiaries etc.	
1.							
2.							

Box 12). Checklist I is for programmes that are beneficiary oriented and consciously target women. Checklist II covers mainstream sectors. These guidelines help in reviewing Public expenditure and policy from a gender perspective to enable identification of constraints in outreach

c) Beneficiary Needs Assessment

Establishing requirements from the point of view of women and reviewing effectiveness of public expenditure accordingly.

d) Impact Analysis through monitoring, evaluation and field level surveys

Establishing actual impact of public expenditure and policies from gender perspective, through monitoring, evaluation and field level surveys. This would include tracking flow of intended benefits. Results of impact analysis of programmes from a gender perspective help identify barriers in access to public services/expenditure by women, enable gender sensitive review of policy & programme design, change in quantum of allocation and implementation guidelines etc.

e) Participative Budgeting

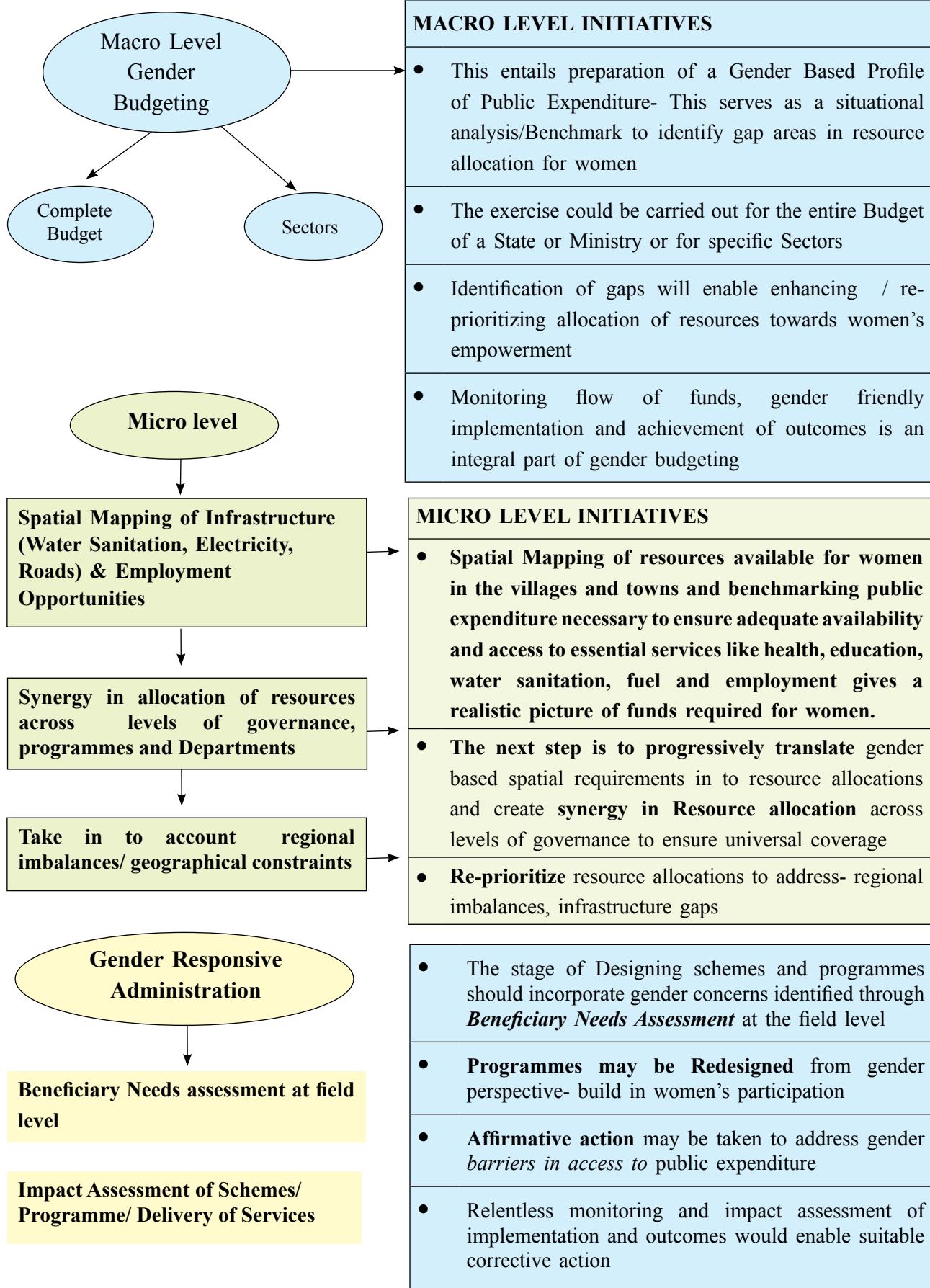
Involvement of women in decision-making is seen as a key to success of all gender budgeting initiatives. Women have to be treated as equal partners in decision-making and implementation rather than as beneficiaries. Thus Gender Budgeting advocates capacity building of elected women representatives, women self help groups etc and their active involvement in decision making and budgeting at the field level.

f) Spatial Mapping- Macro level planning for micro level needs

Women's empowerment is a holistic concept which entails adequate resource allocation in all areas including health, education, water sanitation and nutrition, sustained employment, access to credit and asset ownership, skills,

research and design technology and political participation. Further, regional imbalances have to be corrected. For this it is necessary to focus on specific needs of women residing in villages and towns. Spatial mapping of social infrastructure and access to employment opportunities for women, would clearly highlight resources available, overall gaps, resource allocation required based on size of population and yardsticks for availability of facilities etc. so that universalization of basic social-economic infrastructure is achieved progressively, and allocations and interventions are more focused. These spatial maps would then form the basis for concomitant regional plans and projections on funds for gender requirements, with maximum local participation. This would also enable taking in to account regional imbalances within States and districts.

6.13 The importance of Gender Budgeting (GB) has been emphasized in the Indian Budgets. The Finance Minister, Government of India in his budget speech of 2004-05 perceived the need for budget data to be presented in a manner that brought out the gender sensitiveness of the budgetary allocations and had mandated the setting up of Gender Budgeting Cells (GBC) in all Ministries/Departments for this purpose. In the Budget Speech of 2007-08 it was recognized that there is growing awareness of gender sensitivities of budgetary allocations. A Gender Budget Charter delineating the responsibilities of GBCs has been also circulated by Ministry of Finance.



Box 11

Checklist I for Gender Specific Expenditure

Checklist I for Gender Specific Expenditure

Conventionally, gender budget analysis, by way of isolation of women related expenditure, has been carried out for Ministries/Departments like Health and Family Welfare, Rural Development, Human Resource Development, Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation, Youth and Sports Affairs, Labour, Social Justice and Empowerment, Tribal Affairs, Drinking Water, Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries, Science and Technology, Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Textiles and Agriculture.

Suggested steps that may be undertaken by these various Ministries/Departments who are running programmes/schemes of a gender specific nature i.e. where the targeted beneficiaries are primarily women are as follows:

Planning and Budgeting

- i. **List of schemes and programmes** which are **gender specific**
- ii. Briefly indicating **activities undertaken** under the programme for women.
- iii. Indicating expected **output indicators** like number of women beneficiaries, increase in employment of women, post project increase in resources/income/skills etc.
- iv. **Quantifying allocation of resources** in annual budget and physical targets thereof.
- v. Assessing **adequacy of resource** allocation in terms of population of targeted beneficiaries that need the concerned schematic intervention, the trend of past expenditure etc.

Performance Audit

- vi. Reviewing actual performance- physical and financial vis a vis the annual targets and **identifying constraints** in achieving targets (like need for strengthening delivery infrastructure, capacity building etc.)
- vii. Carrying out **reality check- Evaluation of programme intervention**, incidence of benefit, identifying impact indicators like comparative status of women before and after the programme etc
- viii. Compiling a trend analysis of expenditure and output indicators and impact indicators.

Future Planning and Corrective Action

- ix. **Addressing constraints** identified from step (vi) above.
- x. Establishing requirement of Resources in terms of population of targeted beneficiaries/ magnitude of perceived problems like IMR, MMR, literacy ratio etc.
- xi. Reviewing **adequacy of resources** available – financial and physical like trained manpower etc.
- xii. Planning for **modification in policies and/or programmes/schemes** based on results of review.

Box 12

Checklist II for Mainstream Sectors

Mainstream sectors like **Defence, Power, Telecom, Communications, Transport, Industry, Commerce etc.** may consider adopting the following check list to determine the gender impact of their expenditure.

- i. **List of all programmes** entailing public expenditure with a brief description of activities entailed.
- ii. Identifying target group of beneficiaries/**users**.
- iii. **Establishing whether users/beneficiaries are** being categorized by sex (male/female) at present and if not to what extent would it be feasible.
- iv. Identify possibility of undertaking **special measures** to facilitate **access of services for women**—either through affirmative action like quotas, priority lists etc. or through expansion of services that are women specific like all women police stations, women's special buses etc.
- v. Analysing the **employment pattern** in rendering of these services/programmes from a gender perspective and examining **avenues to enhance women's recruitment**.
- vi. Focus on **special initiatives** to promote **participation of women** either in employment force or as users.
- vii. Indicating the extent to which **women are engaged in** decision-making processes at various levels within the sector and in the organizations and initiating action to correct gender biases and imbalances.

These exercises can be commenced by each Ministry/Department of the Government, to start with, for a few select programmes/schemes which may be selected either in terms of their perceived gender impact, or the selection can be based on considerations of heaviest budget allocation. Based on the result of carrying out the above steps, the gender budgeting exercise may be institutionalized in the manner detailed in checklist.

Initiatives of the Ministry for Gender Budgeting

1. Setting up of Gender Budgeting Cells (GBCs)

6.14 The Ministry has been continuously and actively pursuing with Ministries for setting up of Gender Budgeting Cells (GBCs). So far, 56 Ministries/ Departments have set up these cells. The Box 13 indicates the list of Ministries and

Departments that have set up Gender Budgeting Cells. These Cells serve as focal points for coordinating Gender Budgeting initiatives both intra and inter ministerial. The role envisaged for these cells includes:

- Act as a nodal agency for all gender responsive budgeting initiatives.
- Pilot action on gender sensitive review of public expenditure and policies (Expenditure/Revenue/Policies/

- Legislation etc.) as per Checklist I and II.
- Guide and undertake collection of gender disaggregated data- for target group of beneficiaries covered under expenditure, revenue raising/ policy/ legislation
 - Guide Gender Budgeting initiatives within Departments as well as in field units responsible for implementing government programmes.
 - Conduct gender based impact analysis, beneficiary needs assessment and beneficiary incidence analysis to
 - Establish effectiveness of public expenditure
 - Identify scope for re-prioritization of public expenditure
 - Improve implementation etc.
- Collate and promote best practices on participative budgeting for and implementation of schemes
- 6.15. Apart from workshops, follow up discussions and one to one interactions with several Ministries / Departments were pursued to ensure that gender concerns are incorporated in all sectors. Several Departments evinced interest and requested the Ministry to give detailed insight on Gender Budgeting for their officers and divisions.

Box-13

Campaign against Female Foeticide

Over 40,000 NCC youth throughout the country took pledge on 25th November 2007 to fight against 'Female Foeticide'. The MWCD in collaboration with UNFPA is also training NCC Directorates for taking the social cause of preventing female foeticide further.

Ministry of Defence

Box 14—Gender Budgeting (GB) Cells set up by Ministries/Departments	
S No.	GB Cells set-up by Ministries/Departments
1.	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
2.	Department of Biotechnology
3.	Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals
4.	Department of Civil Aviation
5.	Department of Coal
6.	Department of Commerce
7.	Ministry of Culture
8.	Department of Consumer Affairs
9.	Department of Development of North-Eastern Region
10.	Department of Drinking Water Supply
11.	Ministry of External Affairs
12.	Department of Elementary Education & Literacy
13.	Ministry of Environment and Forests
14.	Department of Family Welfare
15.	Department of Fertilizers
16.	Department of Food & Public Distribution

17.	Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion
18.	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
19.	Ministry of Information Technology
20.	Department of Heavy Industry
21.	Department of Health
22.	Ministry of Home Affairs
23.	Ministry of Labour & Employment
24.	Department of Legal Affairs
25.	Legislative Department
26.	Department of Mines
27.	Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources
28.	Department of Ocean Development
29.	Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs
30.	Ministry of Panchayati Raj
31.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
32.	Department of Posts
33.	Ministry of Power
34.	Ministry of Rural Development
35.	Department of Science and Technology
36.	Department of Secondary Education & Higher Education
37.	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
38.	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
39.	Department of Scientific & Industrial Research
40.	Department of Shipping
41.	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
42.	Department of Telecommunications
43.	Ministry of Textiles
44.	Ministry of Tourism
45.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
46.	Department of Urban Development
47.	Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation
48.	Ministry of Women and Child Development
49.	Ministry of Water Resources
50.	Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
51.	Ministry of Defence
52.	Ministry of Corporate Affairs
53.	Ministry of Steel
54.	Ministry of Minority Affairs
55.	Ministry of Food Processing
56.	Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

2. Mainstreaming of gender concerns taken up with Ministries/ Departments

6.16 Gender concerns in sectors like Health and Education are very apparent and are often focused upon in allocations for gender component. However, what tends to be ignored is gender concerns in mainstream sectors like Finance, Energy, Transport, Industries, etc. Therefore, the Ministry of Women and Child Development also lays emphasis on gender mainstreaming as natural outcome of Gender Budgeting in all sectors.

6.17 The Ministry has been making efforts to generate awareness of the various important gender issues that have a bearing on policy and implementation of all Government programmes.

3. Workshops and Training Programmes

6.18 During the period 2008-09, the Ministry of Women and Child Development organised a series of training programmes and workshops along with agencies such as UNDP, UNIFEM, IIPA and NIPCCD, for different groups of stakeholders as highlighted in the following table.

6.19 Apart from the trainings organized by the Ministry, technical resources were provided at other workshops, such as GB Training programme for the North Eastern States at Guwahati by NIPCCD and Gender Sensitisation training organized by Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad.



NGO Participants at the Gender Budgeting Workshop, Manesar, Haryana, on 10-11 November, 2008



Participants from the Administrative Training Institutes at the Gender Budgeting Workshop, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, on 10-11 December 2008

Month	Activity
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender Budgeting (GB)Workshop for Government of India Ministries and Departments at Kuchesar, Uttar Pradesh
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresher Training of Trainers Programme at IIPA (for core pool of Master Trainers)
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GB Workshop for Government of India Ministries and Departments at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. CEDAW and GB Regional Training for Southern Region, Hyderabad organized in collaboration with UNIFEM.
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One to one orientation for Ministry of Minority Affairs
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GB Orientation at the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management (ISTM), New Delhi GB Workshop for Government of India Ministries and Departments at IIPA. GB Workshop for officials of the Government of Uttar Pradesh.
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One-to-one orientation of Ministry of Labor and Employment Workshop for officials of the Government of Orissa Specialized GB Training for Financial Advisors of Traditionally gender specific sectors, Govt. of India at the India International Centre, New Delhi

October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GB Training of Trainers Programme for Directors of State Institute of Rural Development (SIRDs), at IIPA, New Delhi • Workshop for officials of State Govts. of Punjab, Haryana & UT of Chandigarh • CEDAW and GB Regional Training for Eastern and NE Region, Delhi organized in collaboration with UNIFEM.
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GB, Training of Trainers Programme for NGOs of different States (National Workshop) at Manesar, Haryana • GB Orientation at Institute of Secretariat Training and Management (ISTM) • Gender Budgeting Workshop for Government of India Ministries and Departments at IIPA, New Delhi.
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GB Workshop for officials of Govt. of Kerala • GB, Training of Trainers Programme for Directors of Administrative Training Institute (ATIs) at LBSNAA, Mussoorie

6.20 The Ministry also did a gender analysis of Outcome Budgets of various Ministries / Departments, such as, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Ministry of Minority Affairs, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Culture.

4. Development of Resource Material

6.21 Women and Child Development has developed a Handbook for Gender Budgeting for Gender Budget Cells in Central Ministries and Departments. For this purpose, the Ministry had set-up a Task Force comprising of MWCD, UNIFEM, UNDP, IFES and experts to assist the Ministry in framing, conceptualizing and developing the material.

6.22 The Ministry of Women and Child Development, in collaboration with UNDP, UNIFEM and International experts has developed a Training Manual for Ministries and Departments of Government of India. The objective of the Training Manual is to create a

core group of Trainers who in turn shall facilitate Gender Budgeting Trainings in their respective Ministries and Department.

5. Gender Budgeting Scheme

6.23 At present the Ministry has no dedicated staff for Gender Budgeting. A Scheme for Gender Budgeting has been included in 11th Plan with an Outlay of Rs 3 crore in the Annual Plan 2007-08. The Scheme comprises two components (1) A staff component for handling Gender Budgeting work that will form the Gender Budget Bureau; and (2) Training, Workshops, Research and Surveys.

6.24 Detailed guidelines have been prepared for holding workshops, seminars, surveys and researches related to GB and uploaded on the Ministry's website. An organization may submit a proposal following these guidelines and avail of support from the Ministry for conducting the same.

6.25 Expenditure incurred by the Ministry during the year 2008-09 on Gender Budgeting Workshops and Trainings are as under :-



Prof. Aasha Kapur Mehta addressing the participants at the Gender Budgeting Training of Trainers Programme for SIRDs at IIPA on 16-17 October 2008. Other Speakers (From L to R) are Ms. Manjula Krishnan, Economic Adviser, MWCD, Shri B. S. Baswan, Director, IIPA and Ms. Vinita Agarwal, Director, MWCD

S. No.	Workshop Detail	Date	Amount sanctioned (In Rupees)
1.	One day, ToT Refresher Workshop at NIPCCD, New Delhi	24 April 2008	10,049
2.	Two-day, Gender Budgeting Workshop for GoI Officials, IIPA, New Delhi	7-8 August 2008	1,00,000
3.	Two-day, Gender Budgeting Workshop for Uttar Pradesh State Officials, Lucknow	28-29 August 2008	56,610
4.	Two-day, Gender Budgeting Workshop for SIRDs, IIPA, New Delhi	16-17 October 2008	1,50,000
5.	Two-day, Gender Budgeting Workshop for officials of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh, Chandigarh	23-24 October 2008	1,64,850
6.	Two-day, Gender Budgeting ToT for NGOs, Manesar, Haryana	10-11 November 2008	3,85,500

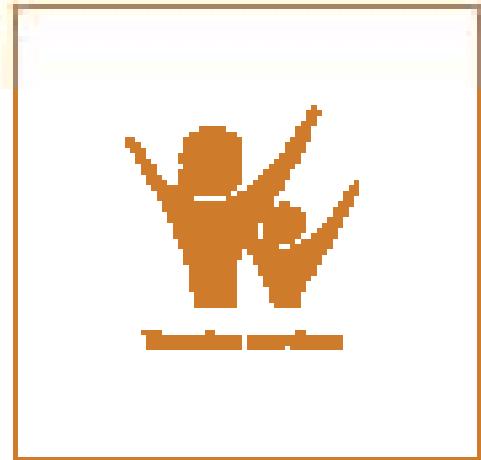
7.	Two-day, Gender Budgeting Workshop for Kerala State Officials, Thiruvananthapuram	17-18 November 2008	1,42,000
8.	Two-day, Gender Budgeting Workshop for GoI Officials, IIPA, New Delhi	20-21 November 2008	1,00,000
9.	Two day workshop for ATI Directors, LBSNAA, Mussoorie	11-12 December 2008	2,96,725
10.	Two-day, Gender Budgeting Workshop for State Govt. Officials, IIPA, New Delhi	15-16 January 2009	2,01,000
11.	GB Orientation for State Training Institutes	3 February 2009	2,250
12.	Two-day, Gender Budgeting Workshop for Officers of Uttarakhand Govt., Dehradun	5-6 March 2009	1,39,800
13.	Two-day, Gender Budgeting Workshop for Officers of PSUs of Govt. of India, IIPA, New Delhi	16-17 March 2009	1,00,000

Support to NGOs for organizing GB Workshops / Trainings

14.	Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation, Karnataka	--	5,00,025
15.	Equity Foundation, Bihar	--	5,05,890
16.	Bhopal Rehabilitation, Madhya Pradesh	--	2,48,400

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC COOPERATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Annual Report 2008-09



Ministry of Women & Child Development

National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development

7.1 Established in 1966, **National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)**, is an autonomous organisation under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development. NIPCCD is devoted to promotion of voluntary action and research, training and documentation in the overall domain of women and child development. In order to cater to the region-specific requirements of the country, the Institute, over a period of time, has established four Regional Centres at Guwahati, Bangalore, Lucknow and Indore. The Institute's headquarters at New Delhi focused its attention in terms of training and research interventions, which are of national and international concerns, and the Regional Centres located at Bangalore, Guwahati, Indore and Lucknow concentrated on capacity building activities at regional level.

7.2 The Institute's main concern is to promote voluntary action in social development with a focus on essential and need-based programmes for the holistic development of the child 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 child care support services. The Institute also runs a one year regular Advanced Diploma in Child Guidance and Counselling with a vision to bridge the gap of trained professionals for undertaking guidance and counselling intervention with children and their families in different settings.

7.3 The activities of the Institute in the area of women development are geared to complement national policies and programmes for women's empowerment through training, research and documentation. It is currently 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.

7.4 The Institute functions as an apex institution for training functionaries of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme. It has also been identified as the Lead Training Agency for Swayamsiddha, which was launched in the year 2001 for empowerment of rural women. The Institute as a nodal resource agency has also been entrusted with the responsibility of training and capacity building of functionaries

at the national and regional level, under the proposed Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), to be launched soon.

7.5 The Institute's affairs are managed with a well conceived mechanism which is operative at the headquarters, through two Departments, namely, the Department of Mother Care and Child Development and the Department of Training and Common Services. Each Department is headed by an Additional Director. Five Programme Divisions function under these two Departments. These Divisions are: Public Cooperation, Child Development, Women's Development, Training, and Monitoring and Evaluation. Each of these Divisions is headed by a Joint Director. The Institute's Documentation Centre on Women and Children (DCWC) is a specialized documentation and reference centre which disseminates information on women and children both within the country and abroad. Institute's four Regional Centres, each headed by a Regional Director, cater to the training, research and consultancy needs at regional level.

7.6 The Institute is governed by General Body responsible for formulating overall policies of the Institute and the Executive Council responsible for management and administration of the Institute. The Minister of State for Women and Child Development under whose administrative control the Institute is placed is the President of the General Body and also the Chairperson of the Executive Council.

7.7 NIPCCD derives its strength from its multi-disciplinary and talented faculty, which has enabled the Institute to take up multi-dimensional projects and activities for the welfare of women and children, and be recognised at the national level.

Programmes and Activities

7.8 Training and research are the core activities of the Institute. Besides these, the Institute also runs field Demonstration services at its head quarters and Regional Centres and also brings out various Publications in the areas of its interest. During the year, the Institute organised a total of 262 training programmes (summary and list of programme are at **Annexure - XL and XLI**. The training programmes of the Institute can be broadly clarified into three categories: (i) regular programmes, (ii) training programme under (iii) sponsored programmes. It conducts four types of training programmes namely, (i) regular training programmes, (ii) sponsored training programmes, (iii) training of ICDS functionaries, and (iv) training programmes under Projects.

(i) Regular Programmes

7.9 Under regular training programmes, the Institute organises orientation / training courses and workshops/seminars for representatives of voluntary organisations and officials of government departments engaged in implementation of programmes of mother care, child development and women's empowerment. The Institute also conducts programmes on subjects of topical interest in these fields to highlight the role of voluntary organisations and government departments in tackling emerging social problems including those having a bearing on welfare and development of children and women strengthening the service delivery system.

7.10 The Institute has been consistently trying to maximise the outreach of its regular programmes for officials and non-officials engaged in the area of women and child

development with the available resources. The Institute progressively extends its target groups and areas of concern. The Institute has expanded its areas of coverage, inter-alia, early childhood care and development, adolescent development and health, juvenile justice system, trafficking among women and children, domestic violence and gender budgeting. The Institute has also started the fourth course on Advanced Diploma in Child Guidance and Counselling, a one-year programme, from September 2008. The highlights of the regular training programmes are given in the following paragraphs.

Obesity in Children and Adolescents

7.11 A Colloquium on Obesity in Children and Adolescents: Issues and Challenges was organised by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with NIPCCD Headquarters with the objectives to understand the prevalence, trend and factors contributing to obesity and related problems in children and adolescents; and develop strategies for effective interventions to combat obesity in children and adolescents. One hundred one participants attended the Colloquium.

Prevention of Malnutrition and Micronutrient Deficiencies

7.12 Malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies are a matter of serious concern in our country as it affects more than a third of India's population. Deficiencies of micronutrients lead to growth retardation, morbidity, mortality, brain damage, eye damage leading to blindness and affect the cognitive and other abilities of children. This drain on the country's human resource due to the problem of malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies is unnecessary

and deplorable. The Government of India has drawn up many action plans to reduce the gravity and enormity of chronic malnutrition. The available solutions needed to eliminate micronutrient malnutrition are simple, effective and inexpensive. In order to orient the voluntary organisations, two **Orientation Courses on Prevention of Micronutrient Malnutrition** were organised by Headquarters and Regional Centre, Guwahati. The objectives of these courses were to: sensitise the participants about the magnitude of the problem of micronutrient malnutrition; create awareness about the policies and programmes for the control of micronutrient deficiencies; highlight causes and consequences of micronutrient malnutrition; and evolve strategies for prevention and management of micronutrient malnutrition. In all forty-two participants attended these orientation courses. A **Sensitisation Training for Representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions on Prevention of Malnutrition and Micronutrient Deficiencies** was also organised by Regional Centre, Bangalore which was attended by twenty participants.

7.13 An Orientation Course on Health and Nutrition of Young Child and Women for Representatives of Voluntary Organisations was organised by Regional Centre, Lucknow with the objectives to: familiarise the participants about policies and programmes for women and children; create awareness on nutrition and health issues of women and children; and equip them with appropriate skills for imparting effective nutrition and health education. Fifteen participants attended the course.

Nutrition Security

7.14 An Orientation Programme on Food and Nutrition Security of Women and Children during Disasters was organised by

Regional Centre, Bangalore with the objectives to: understand the vulnerability of women and children during disasters and emergencies; understand the nutritional requirements of women and children viz in disasters and emergencies; discuss the need and importance nutritional preparedness; and orient them about the strategies of achieving nutritional fulfillment during disasters/emergencies. Forty-nine participants attended the workshop. **Two Training programs on Achieving Institutional Linkages for Sustainable Nutritional Security and Role of Women** were organised by Headquarters which was attended by fifty-three participants.

7.15 A Regional Consultation Meet on Strategies for Ensuring Food and Nutrition Security of Vulnerable Groups was organised by Regional Centre, Bangalore with the objectives to: examine the present situation of food and nutrition security; review existing programmatic and operational directives to achieve food and nutrition security; discuss the challenges for achieving food and nutrition security among vulnerable groups; and work out the strategies for improving nutrition security of women and children. Forty-seven participants attended the meet.

Nutrition and Health Education

7.16 Realising the importance of nutrition education, a **Skill Training on Behaviour Change Communication in Nutrition and Health Education for Voluntary Organisations** was organised by Regional Centre, Bangalore with the objectives to: sensitise the participants about the nutrition and health status of women and children, orient them to good nutrition and the importance of macronutrients as well as micronutrients, discuss the health and nutrition behaviour of the community, identify the

areas needed to bring about behaviour change, and build their capacity about behaviour change communication in identified areas of NHED. Twenty-five participants attended the programme.

7.17 A Regional Consultation Meet on Nutritional Advocacy for Urban School Children and Adolescents was organised by Regional Centre, Bangalore with the objectives to: orient the participants about the situation of children and adolescents in southern India; make them conversant with the factors influencing the nutritional status of children and adolescents; provide insights on the impact of present life style on the health and nutritional status of children and adolescents; and discuss the ways of maintaining good nutrition of schoolchildren and adolescents keeping in tune with the present day life style. Twenty-eight participants attended the meet.

Reproductive Health of Adolescents and Women and HIV/AIDS

7.18 Reproductive tract infections (RTIs) pose grave threat to women's lives throughout the world because of the degree of morbidity and mortality they cause and well established evidence that it facilitates transmission of HIV. It is estimated that one-third of the total disease burden of women in the age group of 15 – 44 years in developing countries is linked to health problems related to pregnancy, childbirth, abortions, HIV/AIDS and RTIs. Taking view of this scenario, the Institute organised an **Orientation Course on Reproductive and Child Health, Family Life Education and HIV/AIDS**. The main objectives of the course were to: orient the personnel of voluntary organisations running Short Stay Homes and implementing Swadhar scheme to the fundamental concepts of essential and emergency obstetric care, newborn

care, infant and young child feeding, etc; and build the capacity of personnel of voluntary organisations with the necessary techniques and skills in nutrition and health education for dealing with issues related to family life education, reproductive and child health and HIV/AIDS. Nineteen participants of voluntary organisations attended the programme.

7.19 Two Orientation courses on Adolescent Health, Family Life Education and HIV/AIDS for executives of voluntary organisations were organised by the Headquarters and Regional Centre, Lucknow. In all, forty participants attended the training. **A Training on Life Skills Education (LSE) of Tribal Adolescent Girls** was also organised Regional Centre, Indore with the objectives to: sensitise the participants about situation of tribal adolescent girls, orient them to the need and importance of life skill education, equip them with the skills in imparting life skills education and develop an action plan to impart life skill education at grass roots level. Twenty-six participants attended the training.

Management of Creche Services

7.20 Early childhood care and development is considered now as an important input for the sound growth and development of children. Last few decades have seen an unprecedented expansion of early childhood care and education services and crèche services both in government and private sector. In order to enhance the capabilities of functionaries in effective implementation and management of creche programme, the Institute organised an Orientation Courses on Management of Crèche Services for Voluntary Organisations at the Headquarters. The objectives of the courses were to: enable the participants to develop better understanding of various aspects of

child development, particularly in the context of children between 0-6 years; sensitise them to developmentally appropriate early childhood care and development services; and enable them to develop viable strategies to make qualitative assessment of creche programme implemented by voluntary organisations. Twenty-one participants attended the programme.

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)

7.21 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) play an important role in the child's life. The experimental activity alongwith proper nutrition and health care in the ECCE programme is fundamental to the fulfillment of the child's right to life, to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to the right to achieve full development potential without any discrimination. In the last few decades there has been unprecedeted growth of ECCE centres run by voluntary organisations. Regional Centre Bangalore organised an Orientation Programme on Effective Management of ECE Programme: Orientation of Senior Personnel of Social Organisations of Southern States. The objectives of the programme were to: sensitize and orient the participants to the needs of children; create awareness about the nature of services and its delivery; orient them on the effective organization of ECCE centers; and apprise them about the minimum standards for ECE centers. Twenty-one participants attended the programme.

Prevention and Early Identification of Developmental Disabilities

7.22 The Institute organised **Orientation Training on Prevention and Early Detection**

of Developmental Disabilities for Social Organisations. The main objectives of the training programmes were to: sensitise the participants to the importance of prevention and early detection of childhood disabilities; orient them to the strategies of prevention and early detection of disabilities among children in the community; enable them to learn skills in screening of children with developmental delays and disabilities; and to apprise them with various programmes for children with developmental delays and disabilities Twenty-six representatives of voluntary organisations attended the programme.

7.23 A Workshop on Prevention and Early Identification of Childhood Disabilities was organised by Regional Centre, Guwahati with the objectives to: review the existing measures for prevention of childhood disabilities; deliberate on services for early detection and rehabilitation of disabilities; discuss the role of rehabilitation professionals and community in prevention and identification of childhood disabilities; and formulate strategies for prevention and rehabilitation of childhood disabilities. Forty-nine participants attended the workshop.

Child Guidance and Counselling

7.24 Children are being subjected to extremely stressful and life altering situations on account of misplaced emphasis on achievement; strains of modern living and social and economic disadvantages. All of these young people – those facing the brunt of new form of psychosocial trauma as well as those encountering exploitative situations such as abuse, domestic violence etc. would benefit tremendously from professional counselling and guidance services.

Advanced Diploma in Child Guidance and Counselling

7.25 The fourth one year **Advanced Diploma in Child Guidance and Counselling** commenced on 15 September 2008 with the objectives to: explore and evolve attitudes, values and beliefs that facilitates work with children as mental health professionals; acquire knowledge and understanding of theoretical constructs and socio-cultural perspectives in the context of counselling; develop skills to plan, provide and monitor-counselling interventions for children and child-related systems; and develop skills of mobilizing resources and networking and collaborating with stakeholders. Twenty-one students are attending the course.

Understanding and Counselling Children

7.26 In contemporary times ‘parenting’ has become truly challenging as even the construct of ‘childhood’ in the society is changing. There is a growing incidence of behavioural problems in children who face tremendous pressures at school, family and with peers. Parents need support to address developmental concerns of children and adolescents and also to develop confidence in their child rearing roles. Sensing the need of the hour, the Institute conducted twenty-two **Workshops for Parents on Qualitative Parenting** at the headquarters and Regional Centres. The various themes covered in the workshops include qualitative parenting for holistic growth and development of children, educating the girl child; issues pertaining to scholastic performance of children; challenges of learning disability; parental support during early and late childhood; and addressing the

challenges of growing-up. In all 1779 parents attended these programmes.

Orientation to Teachers

7.27 In order to sensitise teachers towards their role in **Understanding and Managing Children with learning and behavioral problems**, the Institute organised six workshops at its Headquarters and Regional Centres. Two hundred and thirty-six teachers participated in these workshops. Besides, twenty-one participants attended a workshop especially organised for counsellors and School Principals on learning and behavioural problems in children.

Training on Counselling for Functionaries of Childline Project

7.28 An **Orientation Training on Communication and Counselling Skills for the Functionaries of Childline** was organised by Regional Centre, Indore with the objectives to: discuss and analyse the needs and problems of children in difficult circumstances and role of childline functionaries in dealing with children in difficult circumstances; upgrade the communication skills for effective handling of children; and equip them with skills in counselling techniques. Thirty-two participants attended the training.

7.29 An **Orientation Training on Counselling Intervention for Children Affected by Trauma, Abuse and Neglect** was organised by Headquarters with the objectives to: sensitize them to the need for counselling children at-risk; facilitate them to develop positive attitude for counselling children; and orient them to various approaches to counselling children. Thirty-two participants attended the training.

Care and Protection of Children

7.30 The Institute **organised an Orientation Workshop on Integrated Child Protection Scheme** for NIPCCD Faculty, MWCD Staff, CARA and CIF Functionaries Concerned with Child Protection Issues. **A Refresher Training of Trainers on Child Protection for Existing Master Trainers** was organised by the Headquarters during the year.

7.31 **Five Regional Level Consultation Meets of Members of CWCs** were organised by Headquarters and Regional Centres located at Bangalore, Indore, Guwahati and Lucknow. The main objectives of the Consultations were to: review the status of implementation of Juvenile Justice Act 2000 by States/UTs; discuss the roles and responsibilities of the members of CWC; highlight the importance of non-institutional services under the Act; and facilitate effective rehabilitation and social reintegration of children. In all 131 participants attended the consultation meets.

7.32 **Nine Sensitization Programmes on Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act 2006** were organised by the Headquarters and Regional Centre, Bangalore, Guwahati, Indore and Lucknow. The main objectives of the training were to: sensitize and orient the participants to the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act 2006; bring about clarity and understanding of the roles and responsibilities of different personnel involved in the implementation of the Act; facilitate sharing of best practices at regional level for strengthening implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act; create awareness on the role of voluntary agencies and community as provided in the Act; and facilitate the speedy disposal of cases. In all, 301 participants attended the training.

Child Rights, Policies and Legislation

7.33 At the behest of Ministry of Women and Child Development **a Review Meeting of the Advisory Group on National Policy for Children 1974** was organised by Headquarters in the light of fresh issues concerning children that have risen recently, which need to be addressed more effectively. Thirty-one members attended the meeting.

7.34 Certificate Course on Child Rights and Protection was organised by Headquarters with the objectives to: build knowledge base of participants on child rights and child protection and rights based approach for organising training and implementing ICPS programme; facilitate improvement in quality and standards of services for children in need of special care; sensitise them about the procedures and provisions for children under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act 2006; provide exposure to participants to field situation and innovative approaches in the area of child protection with hands on training to sharpen their skills; and create a cadre of functionaries to work in the area of child protection with requisite knowledge and skills on the subject. Twenty-two participants attended the course.

Child Abuse

7.35 Child abuse is one of the most heinous human rights violation prevalent in our society, and difficult to counter and address because the victims of this crime i.e. children are relatively powerless and voiceless. Regional Centres Guwahati and Lucknow organised **two Sensitisation Programmes on Prevention of Child Abuse** to sensitise representatives

of Childline and District School Inspectors and Education Officer with the objectives to: sensitize participants on child abuse; its nature, extent and forms, to provide information on the legal provisions and support systems available; and to help them to develop strategies for effective handling of abused children. Seventy-three participants attended these programmes.

Child Marriage

7.36 Child marriage has been universally recognised as a harmful customary practice that violates the rights of children and hence needed to be reformed. The issue of child marriage is seldom examined from the human rights perspective. In this context the Headquarters and Regional Centre, Lucknow organised two **Sensitisation Programmes on Prevention of Child Marriages in India for the Functionaries of Voluntary Organisations**. In all, thirty-one participants attended the programme.

Child Labour

7.37 A Workshop on Prevention of Child Labour Strategies through ICDS and SSA Programme was organised by Regional Centre, Bangalore with the main objectives to: disseminate the Prevention of Child Labour Strategy developed in APSBP to the key stakeholders of the four southern states of India; and discuss the issue of mainstreaming prevention of child labour strategies through the ICDS Programme. Thirty-four participants attended the workshop.

Strengthening Social Organisations

7.38 Voluntary organisations working at the grassroots level have little or no access to information regarding programmes and schemes

of development for women and children. They also lack professional and technical skills. The Institute, organised series of programmes at its Headquarters and Regional Centres in the diversified fields like establishing and managing a voluntary organisation, community mobilisation and participation, project formulation, legal regulations, financial management, procedures for seeking financial assistance and good governance.

Establishing and Managing Voluntary Organisations

7.39 The Institute organised **five training programmes on Establishing and Managing a Voluntary Organisation** with the objectives to: share the concept and relevance of voluntary action and social development; orient the participants on modalities of establishing a voluntary organisation, process of institution building, administration and management; build capacity in planning and designing project proposals; provide insights on resource mobilisation and effective financial management; and make them conversant with issues related to good governance, accountability and transparency in voluntary organisations. In all 131 participants attended the programmes.

Financial Management and Financial Reporting

7.40 In view of the need and importance of legal regulations and financial planning and management in voluntary organisations the Institute organised six training programmes **on Capacity Building of Voluntary Organisations in Financial Management and Financial Reporting** at the Headquarters and one each at Regional Centres located in Bangalore, Indore,

Lucknow and two in Guwahati. The objectives of training programmes were to: discuss the need and importance of financial planning and management; impart knowledge on various statutes/acts under which voluntary organisations are registered; and orient about the rules and procedures for seeking exemptions/privileges under income tax and filing of returns by voluntary organisations. In all 180 participants attended the programmes.

Project Formulation

7.41 **Five Training Programmes on Planning and Designing a Project Proposal** were organised by Headquarters and Regional Centres located in Bangalore, Guwahati and Lucknow with the objectives to: enable the participants to develop a perspective on the need and importance of a project; enhance their knowledge base and skills to the techniques of planning, designing and presenting effective project proposals; and develop skills in cost estimation and working out mechanisms for monitoring and sustainability for a project. In all 156 participants attended the programmes.

Procedures for Seeking Financial Assistance

7.42 **An Orientation Courses on Procedures for Seeking Financial Assistance from Governmental and Non-Governmental Sources** was organised Regional Centre, Guwahati with the objectives to enhance the knowledge and understanding of the process and procedure seeking financial assistance through government and other sources of financial assistance, GFR and other legal frameworks; and develop skills in writing project proposals/applications for seeking assistance. Twenty-nine participants attended the programme.

Good Governance for Voluntary Organisations

7.43 Realising the importance of good governance as vital to the success of implementation of programmes of welfare and development by voluntary sector, the Institute organised five **Training Programmes on Good Governance in Voluntary Organisation** at its Headquarters and Regional Centres located at Guwahati, Lucknow and Indore for the voluntary organisations. The objectives of the programme were to: develop professional skills among participants for making programmes sustainable; make them conversant with the essential features of good governance; apprise them of techniques; and enhance their capabilities to tackle the problems of lack of good governance. In all 123 participants attended the programmes.

Mobilization and Management of Community Resources

7.44 Headquarters and Regional Centres located at Bangalore, Lucknow, Indore and Guwahati organised one course each on **Training on Mobilising and Management of Community Resources for Voluntary Organisations** with the objectives to: enhance the knowledge and understanding of the participants on the techniques for mobilizing and managing community resources; reduce their dependency on donor agencies by developing necessary skills and awareness to adopt the techniques as a sustainable alternative for programme implementation; enable them to manage their financial matters and funds; and provide information on legal framework for voluntary organizations. In all 145 participants attended the programmes.

Participatory Learning and Action (PLA)

7.45 Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) is a flexible, innovative and non structured method of planning and designing programmes, which has the ability to change attitudes and lives of people in the community. To build the capacity of NGOs in using PLA techniques, Regional Centre Bangalore and Guwahati organized two skill training programmes each on the **Techniques of Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) for the Functionaries of Voluntary Organisations**. In all 73 participants attended these programmes.

Communication and Negotiation Skills

7.46 An **Orientation Course on Communication and Negotiation Skills for Functionaries of Voluntary Organisations** was organised by Regional Centre, Guwahati with the objectives to: orient the participants on concept and importance of communication process and negotiation; equip them with effective communication and negotiation skills for better work performance; and enable them to be a better negotiator in the dealings of their organization. Thirty-five participants attended the course.

Integrated Micro Planning

7.47 A **Training Programme on Community Micro Planning for Development of Women and Children of Tribals and Other Underprivileged Sections of Society for the Functionaries of Voluntary Organisations** was organised by Headquarters with the objectives to: expose the participants to the concept of micro planning so as to evolve

participatory development methodology to address the problems of women and children belonging to tribals and other underprivileged sections of society; help them to evolve a module for integrated micro planning involving the community; facilitate them in evolving a developmental action plan which comprises identifying and prioritizing problems, strategies and options for dealing with the problems; and developing a rudimentary work programme describing approaches and strategies. Twenty-three participants attended the training.

Welfare and Development of Tribals

7.48 An Orientation Course for Officials and Non Officials Engaged in Welfare and Development of Tribal Community was organised by Regional Centre, Indore with the objectives to: sensitise the participants about constraints and problems faced by scheduled tribe women and children, provide information about the financial support and other government run programmes for welfare and development of scheduled tribe women and children, and acquaint them with the tribal culture, traditions and life style etc. Seventeen participants attended the programme.

Sensitisation on Issues Relating to Women and Children for Members of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)

7.49 The 73rd Constitutional Amendment has enabled women of this country to participate substantially in the panchayati raj bodies at various levels. It allows women to share power and participate directly in the developmental process. The Institute organised two **Orientation**

Training Programmes for Elected Women Representatives of Panchayati Raj Bodies on Issues Related to Women and Children at Regional Centres located at Bangalore and Indore with the objectives to: develop clear perspective about situation of women and children in their respective regions; create awareness about the existing policies and programmes for empowerment of women and development of children; provide information about the existing legislative measures for prevention of violence against women and children; and sensitise them to their role and responsibilities as elected representatives of people. In all 55 elected representatives attended the programmes. Besides twelve participants attended the **Orientation Training for Representatives of Autonomous District Councils on Women and Child Development** organised by Regional Centre, Guwahati.

Gender Sensitisation

7.50 With the growing awareness about the crucial role women play in the overall development scenario the issue of gender equality assumes much more significance. With this view, seven **Gender Sensitization Trainings**, one each for law enforcement agencies, and voluntary organisations and five programmes for Police Officers were organised by Regional Centre, Bangalore, Lucknow and Indore with the objectives to: enable the participants to develop a clear perspective on gender issues; enrich and strengthen their sensitivity towards women's development and empowerment; equip them with appropriate approaches and skills necessary for integrating women's concern in planning / designing / monitoring / implementation of programmes especially the gender-sensitisation training of all ranks of police personnel; and orient them to alternate approaches regarding

victims and perpetrators. In all 262 participants attended the training.

Prevention of Gender Based Violence

7.51 India has enacted a number of legislations and amendments in the existing laws to curb the problem of violence against women. Due to ignorance about various legal provisions in favour of women they are subjected to discriminatory treatment. Two **Sensitisation Programmes on Violence Against Women for the Functionaries of Development Programmes** was organised by Headquarters with the objectives to : sensitize the participants on the concept of violence; types of violence and gender based violence; provide them an overview of instruments to eliminate discrimination against women; discuss existing legislations to prevent / protect women against violence; and apprise them of existing support services. Fifty-six participants attended the programmes. An **Orientation Workshop on Combating Gender Based Violence** was also organised by the Headquarters with the objectives to: enable the participants to develop clear perspectives about domestic and gender based violence its causes, manifestations and consequences; discuss about sexual violence and trafficking of women and girls; workout strategies for combating gender based violence; and provide a forum for sharing the experiences of participants working on gender based violence. Forty-nine participants attended the workshop.

7.52 Two **Orientation Programme for Government Officials and NGOs on ‘Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005’** was organised by Regional Centre, Guwahati and Bangalore with the objectives to: review trends in domestic violence over the past decade and the measures adopted to

combat it; create awareness about the provisions of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005; and discuss the roles of the protection officer, service providers and other organisations in the implementation of the Act. Seventy-four participants attended the programme. Also a **Workshop on Prevention of Domestic Violence for Personnel Involved in Implementation of Domestic Violence Act, 2005** was organised by Regional Centre, Indore which was attended by sixty-five participants.

Legal Provisions and Safeguards for Protection of Women

7.53 **Orientation Course on Legal Provisions and Safeguards for Protection of Women for Agencies Involved in Women’s Issues** was organised by Regional Centre, Lucknow with the objectives to: create awareness among participants about legal and constitutional rights, make them aware about legal provisions and safeguards for protection of women, provide information about legal machineries dealing with care, protection and justice; and facilitate participants to develop action plan for addressing women issues/rights for justice. Twenty-four participants attended the programme.

Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Work Place

7.54 Sexual harassment infringes the fundamental right of women to render equality under Article 14, of the Constitution of India and her right to life and live with dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution which includes a right to a safe environment free from sexual harassment. The right to protection from sexual harassment and the right of work with dignity are recognised as universal human right by International Convention for Elimination of

Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The Supreme Court in Vishakha Vs State of Rajasthan (1997) (7) (SCC 323) has formulated guidelines to address sexual harassment until a suitable legislation is enacted in this respect. All government and private sector organisations, hospitals, universities and other responsible persons and the unorganised sector come under the preview of these guidelines.

7.55 In order to sensitise the civil society institutes, the Institute conducted four **Sensitisation Programmes on Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Work Place** at its Regional Centre, Bangalore and Guwahati. One hundred and forty nine participants attended the training.

Prevention of Female Foeticide and Infanticide

7.56 The Institute organised four **Sensitisation Programme on Prevention of Female Foeticide and Infanticide for NGOs, Medical and Para-medical Personnel** were organised by Headquarters and Regional Centre, Lucknow with objectives to: sensitise the participants on issues of gender violence with special reference to female foeticide and infanticide; sensitise them to the magnitude of the problem and its overall impact on status of women, discuss the existing policies and legislation to curb female foeticide and infanticide; and identify strategies for strengthening the existing mechanism to curb these practices. Ninety-five participants attended the programmes.

Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children

7.57 Despite a number of measures initiated by the Government as well as by some voluntary organizations to address the issue of trafficking

in women and children which has emerged as the worst form of violation of human dignity and human rights today. The Headquarters organised an **Orientation Course on Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children** for voluntary organisations and government officials with the broad objectives were to: create awareness about the magnitude of the problems of trafficking; discuss concept, trends and dimensions of trafficking in India; familiarise them with the rescue operations, post rescue care and rehabilitation process; communication and counselling strategies for survivors and critically analyse and evolve the role of Non-Government Organisations in prevention of trafficking. Fifty-seven participants attended the course.

7.58 A **Multi Stakeholder Public Private Partnership Workshop to Combat Trafficking** was organised by Headquarters in collaboration with Ministry of Women and Child Development, GOI and Department of Women and Child Development, Govt. of Karnataka with objectives to: discuss and deliberate on Public Private Partnership for providing economic empowerment of survivors of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation; create linkages and strengthen alliances between the corporate and NGO sector; and lay foundation for a business coalition on anti-human trafficking initiatives. One hundred and two participants attended the workshop.

7.59 Two **Trainings of Grant Receiving NGOs on the Scheme of UJJAWALA** were organised by Headquarters with the objectives to: orient the participants about UJJAWALA; equip the field practitioners with knowledge and skills to deal with trafficked women; provide them a platform to evolve an advocacy tool to prevent trafficking; orient them to rescue operations and provide guidelines for the same; inform them about protective homes and how to

run them; enhance their skills in preparation of project proposal; and discuss the monitoring and networking system at the State and national level under the scheme. Sixty participants attended the training

7.60 A Training on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for SAARC Countries was also organised by Headquarters. Fifteen participants from Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka attended.

7.61 A Sensitisation Programme for Police Officials on Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children was organised by Regional Centre, Bangalore at Chennai with the objectives to: enable the participants to

understand the magnitude of the problem; to sensitise them to the legal framework and law enforcement machineries; and discuss strategies for prevention, protection and prosecution. Thirty-two participants attended the programme.

7.62 A Sensitisation Programme on Prevention of Trafficking of Children for the Representatives of Childline was organised by Regional Centre, Lucknow with the objectives to: enable the participants to address the root cause of trafficking and implement preventive rehabilitative strategies; provide information on the legal provisions for prevention of trafficking; and build their skills in providing counselling to the rescued victims. Thirty participants attended the programme.



*Training on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for SAARC Countries
Inauguration by Secretary MWCD*

Gender Budgeting

7.63 A Regional Workshop on Gender Budgeting for North Eastern States was organised by Headquarters at Guwahati with the objectives to: sensitise on the concepts and the need for gender-based approach for budgeting; apprise its positive contributions to the economic and social development of the country; orient to the tools of gender budgeting; and enable the participants to dovetail gender concepts in projects and programmes undertaken by them and disseminate information widely. Twenty-eight participants attended the workshop.

Gender Planning and Mainstreaming

7.64 It has been realized that development programmes that are not gender just, do not benefit women and rather disadvantage them. Development strategies require an entirely new way of thinking in which the stereotyping of women and men no longer limits their choices. Keeping this in view, Regional Centre, Guwahati organised a **Sensitisation Programme on Mainstreaming Gender Issues in Development Programmes** with the objectives to: enable the participants to develop clear perspectives on gender analysis and understand link between gender and development; enable them to acquire necessary knowledge and skills of gender planning; and workout strategies for gender mainstreaming. Thirty-seven participants attended the programme.

7.65 A Training on Gender Planning and Mainstreaming was organised by Headquarters with the objectives to enable the participants to develop clear perspectives about gender

analysis and understand link between gender and development; to acquire necessary knowledge and skills of gender planning; to workout strategies for gender mainstreaming; to discuss various ways and means of women's empowerment and to provide a forum for sharing the experiences of participants working on gender issues. Twenty-five participants attended the programme.

7.66 Two Training on Integrating Gender Perspectives in Health and Nutrition Programmes were also organized to enable the participants to develop clear perspective about gender analysis and its importance in health and nutrition programmes; make them understand how the interrelationship between biological, psychological and social factors generate specific health and nutritional needs for women and men; develop skills for conducting gender diagnosis of existing health and nutrition programmes; and evolve an action plan to integrate gender perspectives in health and nutrition programmes. Forty-three participants attended the training.

Empowerment of Women

7.67 Two Sensitisation Programme for the Functionaries of Voluntary Organisations on Women Empowerment were organised by Headquarters with the objectives to: familiarise the participants with the policies and programmes of women empowerment; sensitise the participants on gender issues and how to incorporate it in the agenda of voluntary agencies; discuss the role of voluntary organizations in empowerment of women; and provide insight on project formulation with gender sensitivity. Fifty-seven participants attended the training.

Economic Empowerment

7.68 Institute's Headquarters organised a **Training Programme on Micro Enterprise Development** for representatives of voluntary organisations with the objectives to: acquaint the participants to the importance of economic empowerment of women; enable them to identify viable micro-enterprise activities for women and understand management of micro-enterprises; provide necessary information on marketing and other support to strengthen the micro-enterprise; impart skills on preparation of business plan dovetailing gender issues; and provide forum for sharing experience on the subject. Eighteen participants attended the programme. An **Orientation Training on Economic Empowerment of Women for Voluntary Organisations** was also organised by Regional Centre, Indore with the objectives to: develop skills in formulation and management of livelihood programmes for economic empowerment; acquaint them with techniques in monitoring, evaluation and supervision of livelihood programmes for economic empowerment. Twenty-seven participants attended the training.

Self Help Group (SHG)

7.69 Two **Orientation Training on Formation and Mobilization of SHGs for Government and NGOs** were organised by Regional Centre, Guwahati and Lucknow. The main objectives of the training were to: create awareness about the plans, policies and programmes of Government for empowerment of women, with special reference to economic empowerment; develop their skills in formation and management of SHGs; orient them about the finance and accounts management; and mobilize the functionaries as

animators and catalysts in formation of SHGs. Sixty-four participants attended the training.

Formation of Cluster and Federations

7.70 A **Training Programme on Formation of Cluster and Federation for Voluntary Organisations on Promoting SHGs for Women Empowerment** was organised by Regional Centre, Indore with the objectives to orient the participants to the concept, need and steps involved in formation of cluster level association; enhance their knowledge on the diversified function of cluster and federation; and orient them to various models of cluster and federations and their functioning. Twenty-nine participants attended the programme.

Strengthening Programmes/Schemes Related to Women and Children

7.71 Government has initiated various programmes / schemes for women such as STEP, Swadhar, Short Stay Homes, Working Women's Hostel etc., which are implemented through NGOs. To enable these organizations perform their role effectively, it is necessary that the personnel engaged in implementation of these schemes / programmes are oriented to the philosophy, objectives and procedures relating to these. They also need to be sensitive to gender concerns while implementing these schemes / programmes. Keeping this in view, the Institute organised an **Orientation Course on Swadhar and Short Stay Homes** with the objectives to: make the participants aware and sensitise on gender mainstreaming; enhance their skill in preparing project proposal of various schemes; analyse problems and

constraints of implementing the schemes; and provide managerial skills for implementation, coordination, supervision and evaluation of the schemes. Twenty participants attended the programme.

7.72 An Effective Implementation of Constitutional Provisions for Safety, Protection and Development of Women and Children : A Consultation Meet was organised by Regional Centre, Bangalore with the objectives to: examine the implementation of constitutional provisions for women and children from the rights' perspective; explore socio economic and cultural context that influence the scope of these provisions; review strategies for safety, protection and development of women and children; discuss the convergence mechanism for effecting constitutional provisions for safety of women and children; and recommend strategies for effective implementation of constitutional provisions for women and children. Thirty-three participants attended the meet.

7.73 Orientation Course for the Functionaries of Voluntary Organisations on Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Programmes for Women and Children was organised by Headquarters with the objectives to: orient the functionaries of voluntary organizations to the fundamental concepts of monitoring and evaluation; and build their capacity with regard to techniques and methods of monitoring and evaluation of developmental programmes for women and children. Twenty-seven participants attended the course.

Right to Information Act

7.74 An Orientation Course on Awareness Building for Senior Representatives of Voluntary Organizations on Right to Information (RTI) Act was organised by

Regional Centre Lucknow with the objectives to: enable participants to understand various aspects of the RTI Act; acquaint the participants with the procedure and process of seeking information from public offices; and enable participants to disseminate information on RTI to the larger community. Twenty-five participants attended the orientation course.

Upgrading the Skills of NIPCCD Faculty

7.75 In order to keep the faculty and staff at the cutting edge of knowledge in their fields of expertise, from time to time they are deputed to various programmes/ seminars/ workshops by reputed professional institutions.

An **Orientation Course for NIPCCD Faculty on Statistical Method and Statistical Package for Social Scientist (SPSS)** was organised by Headquarters in collaboration with National Institute of Medical Science (NIMS), New Delhi. The main objectives of the course was to develop the skills of NIPCCD faculty in use of various statistical methods and Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). Twelve faculty members of the Institute (Headquarters and Regional Centres) attended the course.

(ii) Training under ICDS programme

7.76 Being an apex institution for training of functionaries of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme, NIPCCD is responsible for planning, organising, coordinating and monitoring training; building capabilities of institutions engaged in training; organising training of trainers; designing, revising and standardising syllabi for training of all categories of ICDS functionaries; preparation of training modules and developing, procuring and distributing training materials including audio-visual aids. The Institute also provides



Working group meeting for ICDS and Health functionaries on New WHO Child Growth Standards in Oct. 2008

technical support and feedback to MWCD on training of ICDS functionaries.

7.77 Training of Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) and Assistant Child Development Project Officers (ACDPOs) is organised at NIPCCD Headquarters and its four Regional Centres located at Bangalore, Indore, Guwahati and Lucknow. Besides, NIPCCD Headquarters and its Regional Centres also organise training of Trainers of Anganwadi Training Centres (AWTCs) and Middle Level Training Centres (MLTCs). Supervisors and AWWs are trained at MLTCs and AWTCs respectively which are identified and commissioned by the state governments and are located in different states. During 2008-09 the Institute organised 73 programmes against the annual target of 50 programmes. 2080

participants attended these programmes against the target of 1200 participants for the year. The status of training of CDPOs/ ACDPOs, Training of AWTCs / MLTCs and other related takes are presented in the following paragraphs .

Job Training Course (JTC) for Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs)/ Assistant Child Development Project Officers (ACDPOs)

7.78 The CDPOs/ACDPOs are provided initial Job Training at NIPCCD Headquarters and its Regional Centres. The main objectives of the training are to: orient CDPOs/ACDPOs to the various components of ICDS; enable them to develop skills necessary to become effective

managers and implementers of ICDS programme; acquaint them with ways of eliciting community participation to maximise the reach of services of ICDS; and make them aware of their role and responsibilities and those of other ICDS and Block functionaries. The Institute organised twelve Job Training Courses for CDPOs/ACDPOs during 2008-09 and three hundred and seven CDPOs/ACDPOs were trained.

Refresher Course for CDPOs/ACDPOs

7.79 The CDPOs/ACDPOs are project leaders entrusted with the responsibility of managing the effective delivery of services under ICDS. In order to share generic information as well as latest developments in the field of ICDS, Refresher Courses are organised from time to time with the objective to enhance their supervisory, monitoring and liaison skills for effective coordination and convergence of services at the Anganwadi Centres. During the year under report, 501 CDPOs/ACDPOs received refresher training in 23 courses organised at the Headquarters and Regional Centres at Bangalore, Lucknow, Guwahati and Indore.

Skill Training Programmes for Trainers

7.80 NIPCCD Headquarters and Regional Centres organised skill training programmes for the Instructors of MLTCs/AWTCs. In all 18 skill training programmes were organised to train 441 trainers of MLTCs/AWTCs in the following areas:

- Training of Instructors of AWTCs/MLTCs on Prevention of Undernutrition with Special Emphasis on Prevention of Micronutrient Malnutrition
- Skill Training on Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness for Instructors of AWTCs/MLTCs (IMNCI)
- Skill Training on NHED for the Instructors of AWTCs/MLTCs and ICDS Functionaries
- Skill Training for Trainers of AWTCs/MLTCs on Infant and Young Child Feeding and Counselling (IYCF)
- Skill Training on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) for Technical Institutions of Southern Region
- Orientation Training of Instructors of AWTCs/MLTCs on Counselling of Adolescent Girls on Life Skills Education
- Skill Training of Trainers of AWTCs/MLTCs on PLA Techniques was organised by Regional Centre, Guwahati
- Skill Training for Trainers of AWTCs/MLTCs on Prevention of Trafficking & HIV/AIDS and Counselling
- Skill Training of Instructors of AWTCs/MLTCs on Community Mobilization and Participation
- Skill Training of Instructors of AWTCs/MLTCs on Community Mobilization and Participation
- Training of Trainers of AWTCs/MLTCs on Training Technology
- Training of Instructors of AWTCs/MLTCs on Communication and Counselling Skills

- Training of Trainers of AWTCs/MLTCs on Prevention of Child Marriage and Female Foeticide
- Working Group Meeting for Training of ICDS and Health Functionaries

Other Training Programmes

7.81 In addition to above, the Institute organised the following Workshops/ Consultation Meet/ Training under ICDS which was attended by 783 participants.

- Orientation of State Programme Officers and Deputy Directors Dealing with ICDS (three programmes)
- Workshop to Document Best Practices in NHED in ICDS
- Workshops on Monitoring and Supervision of ICDS
- Working Group Meeting for Training of ICDS and Health Functionaries
- Workshops on Introduction of New WHO Child Growth Standards in ICDS (four programmes)
- Training Programmes for ICDS Functionaries on Accreditation of AWCs (four programmes)
- Joint Training of ICDS and Health Functionaries on Issues Related to Women and Children
- Skill Training to ICDS Functionaries on IYCF
- Skill Training on Growth Monitoring and Promotion for ICDS Functionaries
- Refresher Course for Instructors of MLTCs



*Workshop on documenting best Practices in Nutrition and Health Education
in NIPCCD 10-11 June 2008*

Central Monitoring Unit

7.82 The Government of India has recently set up a regular monitoring and supervision mechanism for the ICDS Scheme through NIPCCD. The new Monitoring and Supervision set up will be a three-tier system, monitoring at the National level, State level and Community (Village) level. At the National Level, the Central Monitoring Unit (CMU) has been set up in NIPCCD. At the State Level, various tasks relating to monitoring and Supervision is to strengthen with the help of selected academic institutions viz. Medical Colleges, Home Science Colleges and Schools of Social Work. The State Health Secretary is the State Advisor at the State Level Monitoring. With this in view, in order to orient representative of these institutions **Two Workshops on Monitoring and Supervision of ICDS Scheme** were organised by the Headquarters on 11th July, 2008 and 18 July, 2008 respectively at Bangalore and New Delhi. The main objectives of the workshops were to: discuss the tasks required to be performed by the selected Institutions as well as the consultants; and discuss the financial support available for the proposed monitoring system. In all sixty-two participants attended these workshops

(iii) Sponsored Programmes

7.83 The Institute, in the past, has been organising a number of training programmes, workshops, review meetings etc. at the request of various national and international organisations such as World Bank, UNICEF, WHO, Childline India Foundation (CIF), State Governments, Police Departments etc. During the year 2008-09 also, the Institute organised a number of programmes which were sponsored by such agencies. The details of these programmes are given in the following paragraphs.

Counselling Skills and Support Services

7.84 Two **Training on Counselling Skills and Support Services for the Police Personnel of CAW (Crime Against Women) Cells** were organised by the Headquarters at the request of Delhi Police with the objectives to: sensitize the participants about women empowerment and gender issues, create awareness about identification of problems of women and diagnosing/understanding their problems; familiarize about existing programmes and support services for women in distress, develop communication negotiation and counselling skills; orient them to counselling methods, types, techniques and process involved therein, and promote networking among NGOs and institutions providing support services to women in distress. In all 48 police personnel attended the training.

B. Research / Evaluation Studies, Documentation/Compilations

7.85 The Headquarters and its Regional Centres undertake research on areas falling within its mandate. Documentation of the research work in the form of reports, compilations and manuals is done for wider dissemination. During the year, the following research studies were completed:

- Eating Pattern of School Going Children – Exploratory Study
- Sexual Harassment at Work Place: An Evaluation of the Working of Committees
- Directory of Resource Persons in Social Sciences and Health
- Monitoring of Creches running under Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme

- Study on Mental Health of Children Affected with Insurgency in Assam
- Directory of Voluntary Organisations - Health and Nutrition
- Directory of Voluntary Organisations - Child Welfare
- Directory of Voluntary Organisations- Social Welfare
- Directory of Voluntary Organisations- Child Labour
- Directory of Voluntary Organisations- Destitute, Adoption and Street Children

Besides these, few other studies are at various stages of completion.

C. Field Demonstration Services

7.86 The Institute runs three Field Demonstration Services, namely Child Care Centre (CCC), Child Guidance Centre (CGE) and Adolescent Guidance Services (AGSC) at its Head Quarters. During the period, the CCC, CGC and AGSC offered placement opportunities for students pursuing various courses at the University Departments for hands training.

7.87 The **Child Care Centre (CCC)** enrolled thirty children (2 ½ to 5 years) in the session, which began in April 2008. During the period under report seven meetings of Mahila Mandal were organised to discuss programmes and activities of the centre as also the progress made and problems of their children. Health and nutrition education was also imparted to mothers in these meetings. The services of Child Care Centre were availed by trainees, social workers, students and lecturers of universities/colleges, teacher trainees and other dignitaries. The Centre celebrated festivals like Raksha Bandhan, Janmashtami, Holi, Diwali, Christmas, Universal Children's Day,

Independence Day, Republic Day and birthdays of children attending CCC. On the occasion of Children's Day, cultural activities and various competitions like racing, drawing and painting competitions for children and competition of nutritious recipes for mothers were organised.

7.88 The **Child Guidance Centre (CGC)** provides diagnostic, therapeutic and referral services to children upto 14 years of age with developmental, learning and behavioural problems including childhood disabilities. The centre functions on a part time basis (18 hours a week) and extends its services through a multidisciplinary team comprising social worker, psychiatrist, child development worker, clinical psychologist and speech therapist. During the year 162 new cases were registered for assessment, counselling and therapeutic interventions. The dominant problems that were diagnosed were Learning Disability; Attention Deficit, Hyperactive Disorders and Autism Spectrum Disorder. The centre provided different assessment services to these children which included psychiatric assessment, developmental assessment through play, educational assessments, speech and language assessment and intelligence and personality assessments.

7.89 The various interventions and follow up services provided at the Centre included parental counselling; parent training in skill development and behaviour management of the children; individualized educational planning for academic skill development in children with learning disability; medicinal interventions for children with epilepsy, ADHD, enuresis etc. Also the Centre provides play therapy to children with serious behavioural difficulties.

7.90 During the period the CGC offered placement opportunities for students of Advanced

Diploma Course in Child Guidance and Counselling who are coached into the clinical procedures of assessment and interventions under clinical supervision of the professionals of the CGC. Also student of Department of Psychology, Department of Social Work, and Department of Child Development of Delhi University, Jamia Millia Islamia University and JNV University, Jodhpur were oriented to clinical procedures of the CGC.

7.91 The Adolescent Guidance Service Centre (AGSC) provides diagnostic, counselling and referral services to young adults with behavioural and psycho-social problems in the age group of 12-19 years through a multidisciplinary team. The services include bio-psychosocial assessments; parent counselling; career guidance, medicinal interventions and educational planning. The counselling intervention for adolescents include cognitive behaviour therapy; relaxation therapy; crisis intervention etc. During the period, the AGSC reached out to the young adults by adopting a two fold strategy. On one hand the professionals ventured out to the nearby schools to undertake preventive, promotive and early identification activities. On the other hand the adolescents were encouraged from schools to come to the AGSC located at the Institute for counselling interventions. During the year (upto February, 2009), 140 new cases (90-self referral and 50-referred through school) were registered for assessment, counselling and therapeutic interventions. This apart 27 students were provided supportive group work interventions in school. Besides this, the Regional Centres located in Bangalore, Guwahati and Lucknow are successfully running the CGCs in its outreach efforts towards reaching the children and parents in the surrounding areas of the Institute. The school located around the Institute are availing the services of Child Guidance Centres. The facilities provided include psychological

assessment / diagnosis; counselling; speech therapy and psychotherapy.

D. Documentation and Publications

7.92 Documentation Centre for Women and Children (DCWC), a special computerized research and reference centre, with a rich collection of published and unpublished documents (grey literature) on women and children continued to function during the year. DCWC has a computerised Database of Documents, and a Database of Organisations. DCWC purchased 308 books, subscribed to 75 journals , 42 magazines and 25 news paper during during the year. It also collected 300 unpublished documents during the current year. The Centre also brings out compilations related to women and children for wider dissemination.

E. Promotion of Use of Hindi

7.93 In order to promote use of Hindi during 2008-09 several measures were taken by the Institute. These includes:

- Incentive Scheme for original Hindi noting and drafting in official work from 1st April 2008 to 31st March 2009.
- Scheme of “Grant of Incentive Allowance” to Stenographers and Typists for doing their official work in Hindi in addition to English
- Cash Award Scheme for officers for giving dictation in Hindi for 2008-09.
- Meetings of Official Language Implementation Committee are being convened regularly
- Two Hindi workshops were organised to promote the use of Hindi in the Institute. Hindi Pakhwara was celebrated during 1-15 September, 2008.

7.94 Besides the above, translation of the following documents was carried out during the period under report

- Minutes of the Meetings of General Body and Executive Council held during the year
- Review of Annual Report
- Programme Calendar 2008-09
- Scheme of Administration of National Children's Fund
- State Specific Observations of ICDS Project
- Guidelines & Project Proposal of National Children's Fund
- Translation of Annual Report 2007-08
- Translation of Audit Report and Annual Accounts

- Annual Report of National Children's Fund (2006-07 and 2007-08)
- Agenda and Agenda Notes on Meetings of General Body and Executive Council held during 2008-09
- Highlights of programmes organised during the year 2008-09

F. General

7.95 The approved Budget Estimates 2008-09 under Non-Plan and Plan were Rs.900.00 lakh and Rs.2000.00 lakh includes Rs.350.00 lakh for NER Plan including Rs.645.00 for setting-up of 5 new Regional Centres respectively. MWCD approved the Revised Estimates 2008-09 of the order of Rs.12160.00 lakh and Rs.800-00 lakh under Non-Plan and Plan, respectively.

CENTRAL SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD

Annual Report 2008-09



8



Ministry of Women & Child Development

Central Social Welfare Board

8.1 The **Central Social Welfare Board** was set up by a Resolution of Government of India dated 12th August 1953 with the object of promoting social welfare activities and implementing welfare programmes for women, children and the handicapped through voluntary organizations. Till 1969 the Board functioned as a limb of the Government and then it was registered as a charitable company under the Companies Act to give a legal status to the Board. The Board

was given the dual responsibility of taking welfare services to the disadvantaged section of society especially women & children, and also developing a nationwide infrastructure of voluntary agencies through which these services could be made available.

8.2 In 1954 the State Social Welfare Advisory Boards were set up in the States and Union territories to implement the programmes of the



Conference of Chairpersons of State Social Welfare Advisory Boards in New Delhi on 3rd Sept. 2008



Painting Competition Organised by Kerala State Board for Durgabai Centenary year

Board and assist the Central Social Welfare Board in expansion and development of welfare

services. The financial assistance to voluntary organizations under various schemes is given on the recommendations of the State Boards.

Mission

8.3 As a national organization, strive to be recognized as the most progressive entity for providing services of unequivocal excellence to women and children for their protection, capacity building and total empowerment. To raise awareness about the legal and human rights of women and girl children and to run campaigns against social evils affecting them.

Vision Statement

8.4 The **decade perspective** of the Central Board encompasses the following objectives:



Smt. Prema Cariappa, Chairperson, CSWB and Shri K.J. Kakanwar, Joint Director, CSWB visiting the flood affected areas of Bihar



Smt. Prema Cariappa, Chairperson, CSWB distributing relief material during Bihar Floods in Sept. 2008

The Board Must

- Act as a **change maker with a humanitarian approach** by reinforcing the **spirit of voluntarism**.
- Develop **cadre of sensitive professionals committed** to equity, justice and social change.
- Become a steering mechanism to create a network of committed social workers for the empowerment of weak, vulnerable and at-risk women and children.
- Recommend **policy initiatives** to meet the new challenges for women and children in emerging areas.
- Strengthen voluntary organizations and **expand coverage of schemes** in areas where they have not yet reached.
- Improve and **strengthen its monitoring role** so that it becomes a guide for the Govt. funds for its sustenance.
- Generate **awareness about the challenges of a society in transition** where new evils are impacting on the well being of women and children.
- Actively pursue **innovative sources of funding** aimed at achieving the above goals for women and children.

Critical Issues and Focus Areas

- **Strengthening and restructuring** of Central Social Welfare Board and State Social Welfare Boards.
- **Evaluation and revamping** of ongoing schemes with the **perspective of global social reforms**.
- **Expanding and strengthening** of monitoring mechanism to enhance **accountability and transparency for social adult**.
- **Training and capacity building** utilizing emerging technologies to foster professionalization and enhance gender sensitivity in execution of programmes.
- **Massive nation-wide awareness generation campaign against female foeticide** in an attempt to arrest declining sex ratio of girl child in keeping with constitutional ethos of equity and gender justice.
- **Gender specific advocacy/social mobilization** to harness women's potential towards their social, economic and political rights.
- **Networking and strengthening of SHG movement** to address the cumulative inequalities, deprivation and poverty among rural women.
- Reaching out and addressing the problems of **special groups/communities** that are still deprived of the fruits of progress, through **gender centric** need-based programmes under innovative projects.
- **Coverage of all districts of the country through area specific approach** with an integrated package of programmes, in partnership with respective State Govts. which actively pursue convergence of schemes for a better impact on target group.
- **Fostering** effective and meaningful coordination and partnership with State Governments and other stakeholders in social sector including **Corporates/NRIs (Corporate Social Responsibility)**.
- **Expansion of media and publicity** coverage to enhance the visibility and presence of the Board. Dissemination of information on issues and concerns related to women and girl child. Development of **IEC (Information, Education & Communication)** to generate awareness and sensitize society on problems like female foeticide, violence on women, gender discrimination, etc. This will also help strengthen the campaigns taken up by the Board and to make the process of mass mobilization more effective.

Programmes of the BOARD

Short Stay Homes

8.5 The scheme launched in 1969, is meant to provide temporary accommodation maintenance and rehabilitative services to women and girls suddenly rendered homeless due to family discord or crime. Temporary shelter is provided to these women and girls from six months to three years. The Short Stay Homes extend case work, counselling services, medical care and psychiatric treatment, skill development training, education, vocational and rehabilitative services for development and well being of the inmates. Details of the funds sanctioned/released and beneficiaries covered under the Programme during the year 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 are given in **Annexure - XLII** and **Annexure - XLIII** respectively.



Inmates of a Short Stay Home being given Craft Training

Family Counselling Centres

8.6 The scheme of Family Counselling Centres was introduced by CSWB in 1983. The centres provide counselling, referral and rehabilitative services to women and children who are victims of atrocities, family maladjustment and social ostracism and also provide crisis intervention and trauma counselling in case of natural disasters. The centres also create awareness and mobilize public opinion on social issues affecting status of women. 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. Details of the funds sanctioned/released and beneficiaries covered under the Programme during the year 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 are given in **Annexure – XLIV** and **Annexure- XLV** respectively.

Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme

8.7 Creche and Day Care Services are not only required by working mothers but also by women hailing from poor families. These services extend support and relief for childcare as the mothers struggle to cope with burden of activities, within and outside the home. The Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme provides assistance to NGOs for running creches for infants (0-6 years) and would provide assistance to ensure sleeping facilities, health care, supplementary nutrition, immunization etc. for running a creche for 25 infants for eight hours i.e. from 9.00 a.m to 5.00 p.m. Details of the funds sanctioned/released and beneficiaries covered under the Programme during the year 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 are given in **Annexure – XLVI** and **Annexure - XLVII** respectively.

Awareness Generation Programme

8.8 The Scheme of Awareness Generation Programme aims at creating awareness amongst women and community at large on rights, status and problems of women in particular and other social concerns. Under the scheme camps are organized, which provide a platform for women to come together to exchange their experiences and ideas and in the process develop an understanding of reality and also the way to tackle the problems and their needs. Details of the funds sanctioned/released and beneficiaries covered under the Programme during the year 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 are given in **Annexure – XLVIII and Annexure - XLIX** respectively.

Condensed Courses of Education for Women

8.9 The scheme of Condensed Courses of Education was initiated by CSWB to cater to the needs of adult girls/women who could not join mainstream education system or who were drop-outs from formal schools. The scheme aims to provide educational opportunities to girls/women above the age of 15 years alongwith additional inputs of skill development/vocational training. The main focus of the scheme is to ensure that contents of the courses are need based and modified according to local requirement and simultaneously targeting towards various stages of educational levels of primary / middle / high



A Creche unit in District Junagadh, Gujarat

school and matric / secondary level courses. Details of the funds sanctioned / released and beneficiaries covered under the Programme during the year 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 are given in **Annexure – L** and **Annexure - LI** respectively.

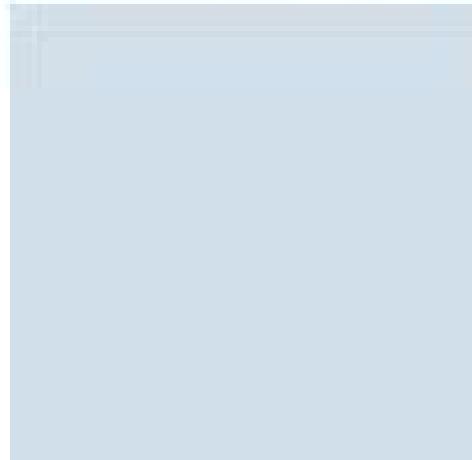
Innovative Scheme:

8.10 It was felt that several issues / problems relating to women and children are not fully covered within the existing schemes of the Board. Therefore, Innovative programme was launched by the Board. Several projects under

the programme are being run for the welfare of children of prostitutes, rag pickers and children of leprosy patients etc. which need special attention. Apart from above, campaigns have been launched for creating awareness about de-addiction, alcoholism etc. Counselling for school girls prone to depression due to fear of future career prospects and subsequent attempts of suicide, need special attention under the Innovative Schemes. Details of the funds sanctioned / released and beneficiaries covered under the Programme during the year 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 are given in **Annexure – LII** and **Annexure – LIII** respectively.

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

Annual Report 2008-09



Ministry of Women & Child Development

National Commission for Women

9.1 The National Commission for Women (NCW) was constituted on 31st January, 1992 as a statutory body at the national level, in pursuance of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 to safeguard the interests of women. The Commission has a wide mandate covering almost all aspects of women's development, viz., to investigate and examine the legal safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws and recommend to Government measures for their effective implementation; review the existing provisions of the Constitution and other laws affecting women and recommend amendments to meet any lacunae, inadequacies or shortcomings in such laws; look into complaints and take suo moto notice of matters relating to deprivation of women's rights, etc. and take up the issues with appropriate authorities; take up studies/research on issues of relevance to women, participate and advise in the planning process for socio-economic development of women, evaluate the progress made thereof; inspect jails, remand homes, etc. where women are kept under custody and seek remedial action wherever necessary.

9.2 In keeping with its mandate, the Commission initiated various steps to improve the status of women and worked for their economic empowerment during the year under report. The Commission's Members and officers have visited various parts of the country to

attend meetings/seminars/workshops organized by NCW/NGOs, to investigate various cases of atrocities committed against women, visited short stay homes, orphanages, hospitals, legal awareness camps on legal rights of women, jails, etc. to gain first hand knowledge about the problems faced by women there, suggest remedial measures and to take up the issues with the concerned authorities.

9.3 The NCW received a large number of complaints and acted suo-moto in several cases to provide speedy justice, took up the issue of child marriage, sponsored Legal Awareness Programmes, Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalats and organized workshops/consultations, constituted expert committees on economic empowerment of women, conducted gender awareness programmes and took up publicity campaign against female foeticide, violence against women, child marriages, etc. in order to generate awareness in the society against these social evils.

Composition

9.4 The present composition of the Commission is as follows:-

- (i) Dr. Girija Vyas, Chairperson - 16.02.2005 to 15.2.2008. Re-nominated and joined on 9.4.2008



Launch of awareness programme “Jago” to stop atrocities against women organized by NCW on 16th Jan. 2009

- (ii) Ms. Yasmeen Abrar, Member - 24.05.2005 to 23.5.2008. Re-nominated and joined on 15.7.2008
- (iii) Ms. Malini Bhattacharya, Member - 26.05.2005 to 11.5.2008
- (iv) Ms. Neeva Konwar, Member - 27.05.2005 to 26.5.2008. Re-nominated and joined on 15.7.2008
- (v) Ms. Nirmala Venkatesh, Member - 15.07.2005 to 14.7.2008. Re-nominated and joined 24.9.2008 and continued till 27.2.2009.
- (vi) Ms. Manju S. Hembrom, Member – 30.06.2006 to 29.6.2009
- (vii) Ms. Wansuk Syiem, Member – 26.9.2008
- (viii) Shri S. Chatterjee, Member Secretary - 10.09.2007

Complaints and Investigation Cell

9.5 The Complaints and Investigation Cell is the core unit of the Commission. It processes oral / written complaints / newspaper reports and takes *suo moto* cognizance of cases under Section 10 of the National Commission for Women Act, 1992. The complaints received relate to various categories of crimes against women such as domestic violence, dowry demand and harassment, torture, murder, kidnapping / abduction, complaints against NRIs / NRI marriages, desertion, bigamy, rape, police harassment / brutality, cruelty by husband, deprivation of women rights, gender discrimination, sexual harassment / harassment

at work place, etc. During the period 1st April, 2008 to 31st March, 2009, 12895 complaints were registered at the Complaints and Investigation Cell of the Commission. The category-wise and state-wise details of the complaints are placed as **Annexures** - The complaints are acted upon in the following manner :

- Specific cases of police apathy are sent to the concerned State Governments for investigation and monitored ;
- Family disputes / matrimonial disputes are resolved through counseling ;
- For serious crimes, the Commission constitutes Inquiry Committees, which makes on the spot inquiries, examines various witnesses, collects evidence and submits reports with recommendations. The Commission monitors the implementation of the recommendation of the Inquiry Committees by taking up the matter with the concerned State Governments / Authorities ;
- In complaints related to sexual harassment at work place, the concerned Organization / Department is urged to constitute an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgment on Sexual Harassment at Workplace, in **Vishakha Vs. State of Rajasthan**, to inquire into the complaint of the aggrieved woman employee.
- For creating awareness, the NCW has also placed advertisements in the leading newspapers of various States emphasizing upon the constitution of an Internal Complaints Committee for enquiring into matters of "Sexual harassment at work place" in Government as well as Corporate Sector.



Smt. Girija Vyas, Chairperson, NCW flanked by members of Dalit Commission of Nepal during their visit to NCW

9.6 The aggrieved women can also access the Commission through its website i.e. www.ncw.nic.in as there is facility of on-line registration of complaints. With this facility, the complainant can access the Commission from any part of the country, without having to even visit the Commission's Office. The registration is done on-line and the complainant is accordingly informed.

Successful interventions of the Commission

9.7 The National Commission for Women received a complaint from Mr. X, a resident of Mathura, Uttar Pradesh. The complainant alleged in his complaint that his daughter had been subjected to dowry demand and harassment / torture by her husband and in-laws. When she failed to bring one lakh rupees as demanded by them, she was turned out of home. The complainant made various attempts to reconcile but all his attempts proved to be in vain. The complainant approached the NCW for help. The matter was taken up by the Commission and an action taken report was sought from the Senior Superintendent of Police, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.

Outcome / Result :

On NCW's intervention, an enquiry was conducted and both the parties were called wherein they reached mutual compromise.

9.8 A complaint from Mall Road, Delhi alleged that her husband had extra-marital affair with some woman and he used to disappear for 5 – 6 months. She further alleged that her husband never used to give any maintenance to her for meeting the day-to-day need of her family. The Commission took up the matter and both the

parties were called for a personal hearing at the Commission wherein after counseling they agreed to an amicable settlement.

Outcome / Result :

The complainant's husband agreed to meet maintenance of the family and stay with his family.

9.9 A complaint from Tilak Nagar, New Delhi, alleged dowry demand and harassment meted out to her by her husband and in-laws. The Commission took up the matter and both the parties were called for a personal hearing at the Commission so that the matter could be sorted out at the initial stage itself. On further attempts of the Commission, both the parties reached an amicable settlement that the complainant and her husband would reside separately from their in-laws and that their in-laws would not interfere in their personal lives.

Outcome / Result :

The complainant and her husband are residing separately from their in-laws. The complainant's husband also assured the Commission that he would take proper care of his wife.

9.10 The National Commission for Women received a complaint about physical and mental torture meted out to a minor girl Ms. A, aged about 13 years, by her employers where the girl was employed a domestic help. As the matter was serious, the Commission immediately sent a team headed by Ms. Manju S. Hembrom, Member, NCW, along with members of Child Line (An NGO from Gurgaon) to rescue the girl from her employers. The team visited the house and the girl was rescued from her employers. Thereafter, the NCW requested the Chief Minister, Government of Haryana, to personally intervene in the matter and to ensure that

proper investigation is carried out in the case. The CM, Haryana, directed the DGP, Haryana Police, for looking into the matter and getting it investigated through some Senior Officer and take appropriate action against the employers of the girl.

Outcome / Result :

The rescued girl Ms. A, has been taken to a Rehabilitation Centre.

9.11 The National Commission for Women received a complaint from Mrs. S, a resident of Bundi district, Rajasthan, wherein the complainant alleged that she has been subjected to harassment / torture by her husband and in-laws. She requested the Commission to ask her in-laws to return her “Streedhan : Dowry money, jewelry items, valuable goods, etc”. The matter was considered by the Commission and an action taken report was sought from the Superintendent of Police, Bundi, Rajasthan, as regards the recovery of ”Streedhan” from the in-laws of the complainant.

Outcome / Result :

The complainant got back all her “Streedhan” which included dowry money, jewelry items, valuable goods, etc. which were given at the time of her marriage.

Suo Moto Cognizance taken by NCW

9.12 The National Commission for Women took *suo moto* cognizance of the incident wherein a 12-year-old minor girl was reportedly raped in a moving car by a Traffic Constable at Swaroop Nagar in Outer Delhi Area. The matter was taken up by the Commission and the Chairperson, NCW, requested the Commissioner of Police, New Delhi, for initiating action in the matter.

Thereafter, the NCW received an action taken report from the Delhi Police, wherein it was informed that :

- An F.I.R. has been registered against the accused persons ;
- The police swung into action and two accused persons i.e., the Constable and one other accomplice were arrested ;
- The accused Traffic Constable has been dismissed from his services ; the vehicle used in the commission of the crime has been seized by the Police ;
- The matter is still under investigation.

9.13 The National Commission for Women took *suo moto* cognizance of the press clipping “Gharelu Naukrani Ki Fande Mein Jhulti Lash Mili” published in the Dainik Tribune. As the matter was serious, the Commission immediately took up the matter and action taken reports were sought from the Director General of Police, Haryana, Inspector General of Police, Faridabad, District Magistrate, Palwal and Superintendent of Police, Palwal. Thereafter, the NCW received action taken reports wherein it was informed that :

- An F.I.R. U/s 302, 363, 366 and 32 of IPC has been registered against the accused persons ;
- The deceased’s body has been handed over to her brother for her last rites ;
- The investigation is still under process and the concerned Police Officers have been directed to investigate the incident thoroughly.

9.14 The National Commission for Women took *suo moto* cognizance of the incident wherein a German girl was reportedly molested

in September, 2008, in Chandigarh, Punjab. The Commission took up the matter and action taken report was sought from the Punjab Police. The following action was taken by the Punjab Police after NCW's intervention :

- An F.I.R. has been registered in the case;
- All the accused persons have been arrested and sent to Jail;
- The exhibits taken in the case have been sent to the Director, CFSL, for examination;
- The investigation has been completed and the Challan has been presented in the Court on 21.11.2008. The proceedings before the Hon'ble Court are under process.

9.15 The National Commission for Women took *suo moto* cognizance of the incident wherein a girl student was reportedly gang-raped in a car in January, 2009, in Noida, District Gautambudh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh. The Commission took up the matter and an Inquiry Committee was constituted which at once visited the concerned Police Station and the place of incidence. The following action was reported by the police in its report submitted to the Commission :

- An F.I.R. U/s 342, 376, 394 of IPC has been registered at Police Station, Sector 39, Noida, after the incident was reported to the Police regarding the alleged gang – rape of the victim;
- The victim's medical examination has been carried out by the Police in District Hospital, Noida ;
- The Police has also arrested 5 of the accused persons and during the course of

interrogation these accused persons have admitted to having committed the heinous crime. All these accused persons belong to Village Garh Chaukhandi, where the alleged incident took place. Two motor cycles, cricket bat, helmet, three mobile hand sets, etc. have been seized by the Police ;

- The names of 6 other accused persons have also come up during the investigation. As regards the arrest of remaining accused persons, the Police has constituted teams for conducting raids and arrests.

9.16 The National Commission for Women took *suo moto* cognizance of the incident of mysterious death of Ms. Scarlette Eden Keeling, an U. K. girl in Goa. The Commission took up the matter and an Inquiry Committee was constituted which at once visited Goa and enquired into the matter. The following action was taken in the case after NCW's intervention and on the complaint filed by Ms. Fiona Mackeown (Mother of the deceased) :

- After second autopsy on the body of the deceased, an F.I. R. U/s 302 of IPC has been registered at Anjuna Police Station;
- During the course of investigation of the case, Sections 376, 328 read with Section 34 of IPC and Section 8 (1) (2) of Goa Children act, 2003, were added ;
- The accused persons have been arrested and are in Judicial Custody ;

9.17 The National Commission for Women took *suo moto* cognizance of the press clipping "Dayan Ke Aarop Mein Dampatti Ki Hatya" published in Dainik Jagraon, New Delhi Edition. The Commission took up the matter and an

action taken report was sought from the District Magistrate, Gumla, Jharkhand. The following action was taken in the matter :

- An. F. I. R. Under Section - 302, 34 of IPC and Jharkhand Anti Witchcraft Act, 2001, has been registered against the accused persons ;
- The accused person have been arrested by the police and efforts to arrest one of the accused person are being made who is absconding for fear of arrest.

9.18 The National Commission for Women took *suo moto* cognizance of the press clipping “Another slur of Haryana Police : SHO booked for rape” published in the Indian Express, New Delhi Edition. The Commission took up the matter and an action taken report was sought from the Director General of Police, Haryana and District Magistrate, Karnal, Haryana. The following action was reported to be taken in the matter :

- An F.I.R. Under Section 376 (2) (1) of IPC and U/s 3 of SC / ST Act, has been registered at Police Station – Nisingh, Karnal District;
- The medical examination of the victim has been conducted and her vaginal swabs (Specimen) have been sent to the SFL, Maduban for examination;
- The accused person has been arrested and has been sent to Jail.
- In addition to this, the accused Inspector has been suspended from the Department;
- The investigation of the case is still under process.

Legal Cell

A. Review of Laws undertaken during the period

(i) Review of Implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA), 2005 .

9.19 The National Commission for Women along with Lawyers Collective organized the 2nd National Conference on implementing the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, on 14th November, 2008. The exercise was undertaken with a view to collate information on the establishment of infrastructure under the PWDVA by the States, examine whether it is adequate in meeting the objective of the law, namely, realizing a woman’s right to a violence-free home.

Recommendation

- Need for appointing full time Protection Officers Contractual appointments could be considered as is being done so in Delhi and Haryana.
- Support system consisting of exclusive Protection Officers with adequate staffing should be set up for the implementation of the PWDV Act, so as to be able to achieve the ends of justice expeditiously.
- Adequate Numbers of Protection Officers should be such that they are able to reach to the Taluka / Block level. The feasibility of every Panchayat having a women justice committee could be considered.
- Notification of Service Providers as per rule11 of the Act is required. Registration of service providers due verification of their suitability must be done and their

phone numbers and addresses must be published and made available.

- Provision for honorarium to counselors
- Training and orientation of all Stake Holders involved in implementation of PWDVA and also training manual for Protection Officers, Police and judiciary must be developed separately.
- Translation of act in all regional languages so that it can be easily disseminated and understood
- Adequate allocation of budget for implementation of the Act.

It has been decided to have further regional consultations before sending the recommendations to the Ministry.

(ii) Revised scheme for Relief and Rehabilitation to victims of Acid Attack.

9.20 The Commission had earlier drafted a Bill titled “Prevention of Offences (By Acids) 2008”. Subsequently it was suggested to have a scheme on the lines of relief and rehabilitation to victims of rape and accordingly the Commission has formulated a scheme for relief and rehabilitation of Offences (by Acids) on women and girl child which is on the lines of the scheme relating to rape victims. Main features of the scheme are:-

- Scheme would be administered by the NCW.
- The authorities at District and State level shall be the same as suggested for the scheme for relief to and rehabilitation of victims of rape.
- Amount up to Rs 50,000/- to be immediately provided towards treatment, and further

up to the maximum of Rs 5.00 Lakhs.

- Rs 2.00 Lakh earmarked towards rehabilitation of the victim.

The revised scheme has been sent to the Ministry for consideration.

(iii) Finalization of Amendments to Dowry Prohibition Act.

9.21 National Commission for Women had organized a Consultation in September 2008 and based on the recommendations and with inputs provided by delegates and Lawyers Collective, the proposed amendments to Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 were finalized. The revised recommendations have been sent to the Ministry for consideration.

(iv) Revised Bill on Protection to women from Sexual Harassment at Work Place Bill, 2008.

9.22 The draft bill is to provide prevention and redressal of sexual harassment of woman at workplace. The definition of ‘aggrieved woman’ besides any woman employee would include any woman associated with the workplace including students, research scholars in any educational institution, university etc. It applies to all workplaces in Government as well as private sector, organized and unorganized sectors .The salient features of the draft bill includes:-

- Constitution of the **Internal Complaint Committee (ICC)**
- Appointment of District Officer
- Constitution of Local Complaints Committee by the District Officer.
- Separate provisions for organized and unorganized sector.

- Penalty for publication or making known contents of complaint and enquiry proceedings

The revised Bill has been sent to the Ministry for consideration.

(v) Recommendations on Review of the Supreme Court Judgement in SR Batra and Anr. Vs. Smt. Taruna Batra, SLP (Civil) 6651-6652 of 2005.

9.23 The Commission has recommended the Supreme Court decision on shared household as defined in the PWDV Act. In the case, the Court held that wife is only entitled to claim a right to residence in a shared household, a ‘shared household’ would only mean house belonging to or taken on rent by the husband, or house which belongs to joint family of which husband is a member. The house in question belonged to mother in law of Respondent and not to Respondent’s husband – Respondent could not claim any right in said house. The grounds on which review sought are :

- a. That the Court has interpreted the term “ shared household” under the PWDV Act 2005 section 2 (s) in a narrow and restrictive sense in its paragraph 19 to 23 of the judgment
- b. Court has not taken into consideration the fact that the aggrieved woman lived in the second floor of the shared household at the given address and was in possession of second floor when she was residing with her husband before she left to reside in her parental home due to matrimonial dispute. Aggrieved woman should not have been dispossessed without due process of law.
- c. The Hon’ble Court has ignored the settled principle of law that PWDVA ensures that every woman in a domestic relationship

shall have a right to reside in a shared household, whether or not she has any right, title or beneficial interest in the same.

- d. Section 17 does not in any way, transfer the title to the property on the woman. Married woman’s right to reside in the shared household arises from the status of being married and the said right existed prior to the enactment of PWDVA. This right is thus not dependent on the fact of living for any length of time in the shared household. Hon’ble Court in Mangat Mal Vs Punni Devi (1995) 6 SCC 88, categorically stated the word maintenance in Section 14 of Hindu Succession Act 1956, must encompass a provision for residence in addition to food and clothing. Thus right to reside in shared household is a pre-existing right of a married woman. Under Section 17, the aggrieved woman’s right to live in a shared household is irrespective of the fact that she had marked presence in a shared household or not. [2007(6) MLJ 205 (MAD) T Vandana Vs Mrs. Jayanthi Krishnamachari]

- e. That the Court has failed to take into consideration that even before the advent of the Act, the right of a wife to reside in the matrimonial home, was recognized as part of her right to maintenance, at least in so far as Hindus are concerned. In **B.P. Achala Anand vs S. Appi Reddu and Another (220) 3 (SCC 313)**, this Hon’ble Court laid down the law on the point as follows :-

“ A Hindu wife is entitled to be maintained by her husband. She is entitled to remain under his roof and protection. She is also entitled to separate residence if by reason of the husband’s conduct or by

his refusal to maintain her in his own place of residence or for just cause she is compelled to live apart from him. Right to residence is part and parcel of wife's right to maintenance."

- f. It is submitted that such a narrow and restrictive interpretation of "shared household" would give relief to the husband after filing a petition for divorce, or with the intention of filing a petition, connives with the in-laws and deliberately moves out of the house by the in-laws into rented premises and then abandon the wife.
- g. Since the property in question belonged to the mother in law the aggrieved woman could not claim any right in the said house. It is submitted that just because the house was in the name of mother in law it fails to indicate the source of income used to acquire the property. As in the present case the source of income behind the house in question could not be ascertained, the aggrieved woman should not have been denied the right to reside in such shared household.
- h. It's a settled principle of law that the welfare of beneficiary legislation has to be interpreted liberally and in favour of the beneficiary and as PWDVA is enacted for the protection of the aggrieved women in domestic relationship and aims amongst other to secure a house for a woman, an aggrieved woman's right to reside has to be given priority.
- i. That the PWDVA expressly states that the ownership of the shared household is irrelevant to the question of the right to reside in the shared household [section 17(1)]. The court states that the relief

sought cannot be granted because the premises in question is not joint family property, and hence, cannot be "shared household". This too is contradictory to the express provision of Section 17(1). Such an interpretation is sure to have adverse implications on application filed by women in cases of NRI marriages, where the husband brings the bride to his parents' house, lives there for a month and then goes abroad. The wife continues to reside in this house, which quite probably is the self – acquired property of the in-laws. The Batra judgment interpretation would then automatically require the courts to say that since this cannot be considered to be the "shared household", the wife has no right to live there regardless of whether he makes provision for her visa or accommodation in the new home? That such interpretation would defeat the very purpose of the Act.

j. That such interpretation is bound to create adverse consequences for women fighting for right to shelter. In a case before the Hon'ble High Court at Bombay (appeal from order No 866 of 2007 in suit No.3072 of 2007) Smt Hemaxi Atul Joshi vs. Muktaben Karsandas Joshi and Anr, the Hon'ble Court observed that "That facts in the case of SR Batra and the present matter are almost similar. Taking into consideration the legal position and facts, the appellant cannot claim any legal right of residence in the house belonging to her mother-in-law...." Even here the said house was in fact the matrimonial home, but the Hon'ble Court rejected the argument.

(vi) Amendments to the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition)

Act, 1986 are under consideration of the Commission.

(B) Seminars and Conferences

9.24 Seminars and Conference organized by Legal Cell are :-

1. “Consultation on Surrogacy and Assisted Reproductive Technologies held on 24/4/2008 at National Commission for Women under the Chairpersonship of Dr. Girija Vyas.
2. Workshops on “Indecent Representation of Women in Media ”in Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad. Amendments to the existing law on the subject have been proposed.
3. Consultation on ‘Compensation to Rape Victims.’ was organized by NCW on behalf of MWCD on 19th June 2008 at Delhi. **The Consultation was presided over by the Hon’ble Minister for Women and Child Development, Smt. Renuka Chowdhury.** National Commission for Women after consultations with the NGOs and advocates working in this field have prepared the Scheme, which provides for compensation maximum of Rs. 2.00 lakhs to victims of rape.
4. State level Seminar on ‘Women and Political Participation’ at Lucknow by National Organisation of Voluntary Associations
5. Seminar on ‘Chalo Gaon Ki Ore’ organized by Orissa State Commission for Women
6. Seminar at Sikkim on ‘Problems relating to women in North East’ held at Gangtok on 19th April, 2008.
7. Seminar on “Women working in Night Shifts ” on 15th September, 2008 in Bangalore.

8. Seminar on ‘Laws Relating to Marriages-Issues and Challenges’ held on 31st January in Delhi.

(c) Legal Awareness Programmes and Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalats conducted.

9.25 The Commission had organized 216 Legal Awareness Programmes and 9 Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalats from April, 2008 to March, 2009.

9.26 Important Meetings / Workshops organized by the Commission.

1. National Consultation on “Draft National Policy for Women in Agriculture” on 10th and 11th May, 2008 at India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi.
2. Seminar on “Dayan Pratha” on 18th November, 2008 at Srimanta Kalashetra, Panja Bari, Guwahati (Assam).

9.27 The Seminars, Public Hearings/ Workshops, Awareness Programme sponsored by NCW.

1. State level Seminar on “Development Induced Displacement in Orissa and Women’s Rights” – by Women’s Studies Research Centre, Berhampur University, Orissa.
2. Regional Seminar on “Peace Process and Development of North East India – A Gender Perspective” – by Institute of Tai Studies and Research, (Assam).
3. One day programme for Various Self Help Groups regarding bring down the suicide ratio in Union Territory of Pondicherry – by Pondicherry Women’s Commission, Pondicherry.



National Consultation on Draft National Policy for Women in Agriculture, organised by NCW on 10th-11th May, 2008

4. Conference on “Women Empowerment in Parliamentary and Local Self Government Institutions in India: Role, Status, Participation and Decision Making” - by Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India (AGRASRI), Tirupati (A.P).
5. Two day Workshop on Women Police Constables at Pondicherry - by Pondicherry Women’s Commission, (Pondicherry)
6. Regional Conference on” Women in Conflict Situation” - by R.K. Mossang Memorial Society, Dist. Changlang (A.P).
7. State Level Seminar on “ Status and Rights of Muslim Women” - by Jagrook Mahila Sanstha Parcham, Saharanpur (U.P)
8. Public Hearing on “Violence against Dalit Women at Orissa” - by Duarshani Shramik Sangha, Orissa.
9. Public hearing on “Land rights of women in Jalgdalpur, Bastar” – by Bastar Samajik Jan Vikas Samiti, Chattisgarh.
10. Public Hearing on “Issues of Women Atrocities at Puri, Orissa” - by Sanjeevani, Bhubaneswar, Orissa.
11. Two Awareness Programmes on “Women Participation in NREGA” - by Avtar Smriti Shiksha Eevam Kalyan Samiti, Morena, (Madhya Pradesh).
12. One Awareness Programme on “Felicitatin Women’s Contribribution in ensuring Safe Motherhood and Child Survival

- at Nandesari (Gujarat)" - by Deepak Charitable Vadodara, Gujarat.
13. Seminar on Micro Finance and women's Empowerment – by Mrs. Helena Kaushik Women's (P.G) College, Malsesar, Dist. Jhunjhun (Rajasthan)
 14. State Level Seminar on Dynamic of Tribal Women Rights Over Minor Forest Produces (MFP) and other Forest Resources in Orissa – by Integrated Tribal Development for Weaker Section (ITDWS), Koraput (Orissa).
 15. State Level Seminar on Women and Political Participation – by Rajiv Gandhi Jan Seva Sansthan, Udaipur (Rajasthan).
 16. State Level Seminar on Role of Media in Women Empowerent at Kanpur – by Draupadi Dream Trust, New Delhi.
 17. State Level Seminar on Child Marriage in West Bengal – by Silda Swasti Unnayan Samiti, Dist. Paschim Medinipur (West Bengal).
 18. Conducting Education and Training through workshop/Seminar /EDN andTRG for poor women headed by house holds – by Abhinav Kala Kendra Vikas Nagar, Ranchi.
 19. Two Awareness Camps on Social Exclusion of Women in India – by Education Rural Development Society, Villupuram Distt. (Tamil Nadu)
 20. One Awareness Programme on Land Rights of Women – Bhartiya Gramodyog Sewa Sansthan, Distt. Hardoi (U.P)
 21. One Awareness Programme on Land Rights of Women – by Ujjawal, Gurgaon (Haryana).
 22. One Awareness Programme on Women Empowerment against Child Marriage – by Nehru Shiksha Gramin Vikas Sanasthan, Dist. Dousa, Rajasthan.

9.28 Research Studies sponsored by NCW

1. Research Study on "Evaluation of Women's Self Help Group's Bank Linkage Programme in Manipur" by - Jana Neta Irawat Foundation for Education, Research, Development and Social Service, (Manipur).
2. Research Study on "Availability of Micro Credit to Women and the Role of SHGs in the District of Sambalpur, Orissa" by - Bharat Integrated Social Welfare Agency (BISWA), (Orissa)
3. Research Study on "Women, Armed Conflicts and its Impacts: A Prismatic Analysis (Comparative Study of Bodoland Territorial Autonomous District and Karbi Anglong District of Assam" by - Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development, (Assam).
4. Research Study on "Coal Mines Women Labour at Dhanbad, Palamau and Ramgarh District (Jharkhand)" by - Centre of Studies for Cultural Identity of Weaker and Suppressed (CSWAS), New Delhi.
5. Study on "Impact of Suicides on Families and Women in Handloom and Powerloom Sectors in Andhra Pradesh" by - Noble Social and Educational Society, Tirupati (A.P)
6. Study on "Women in Panchayats in District Almora Uttarakhand" by - Jalagam Samiti Sajgouri, Dist. Almora, Uttarakhand

- 7. Study on “Increasing of HIV/AIDS Women in Imphal East and West Districts of Manipur” by - State Rural Service Agency (RUSA), Imphal (Manipur).
- 8. Research Study on Women engaged in Agriculture and allied activities in Barpeta, Assam – by Dream Progressive Welfare Association, Barbala, Distt. Barpeta (Assam).
- 9. Research Study on Availability of Micro Credit to Women and the Role of SHGs – by Mother therisa Rural Development Society, Komarole, Distt. Prakasam (A.P).
- 10. Research Study on “A Study of Natural, Extent Incidence and Impact of Domestic Violence against Women in Orissa and Delhi – by Association for Development Initiative, New Delhi.
- 11. Research Study on Effects of Female Literacy in Villages of Rural Rajasthan – by Massom Society for Social Services, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
- 12. Research Study on the Socio-Economic Status of Women Workers with Disabilities in Bihar and Kerala – by Ehsaas Foundation, New Delhi.
- 13. Research Study on Developing a Counselling Toolkit for Adolescent Girl in NCR of Delhi – by Environics Trust, New Delhi.
- 14. Research Study on Problems faced by Sarpanches and Panches – by Chaitanya, Gaya (Bihar).
- 15. Research Study on Availability of Micro Credit to Women and the Role of Self Help Groups – by Institute of Social Work, Kolkata (West Bengal).

Visit of American Delegation to NCW

9.29 US Ambassador and Chief of Protocol, Ms. Nancy Brinker visited the National Commission for Women and interacted with the Chairperson and the Members. The Chairperson explained in detail the activities undertaken by the Commission and the programmes to be undertaken in future. Ms. Brinker, who is closely associated with the cure for breast cancer, narrated how she had been able to raise \$ 1 billion for education, research and health services.

Visit of Norwegian Delegation to NCW

9.30 Norwegian delegation led by Ms. Karianne Robole Soresen, Advisor, Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board visited NCW on 17.10.2008. She was accompanied by Mr. Bernt Sakara and Ms. Eli Melby. The Chairperson discussed the problems of women and gave an overview of the activities of the NCW.

RASHTRIYA MAHILA KOSH (NATIONAL CREDIT FUND FOR WOMEN)

Annual Report 2008-09



Ministry of Women & Child Development

Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

(National Credit Fund for Women)

10.1 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 to meet the credit needs of poor and assetless women in the informal sector. The initial corpus of Rs. 31.00 crore has grown over to Rs.119.00 crore due to prudent investment, credit and recovery management and fresh allocation of Rs. 53.00 crore during the last three years (Rs 10.00 crores in 2006-07, Rs 12.00 crores in 2007-08, and Rs 31.00 crores in 2008-09).

Objectives

10.3 RMK extends micro-finance services to the needy and poor women in the informal sector through a client friendly, without collateral and in a hassle-free manner for livelihood activities, housing, micro-enterprises, working capital and family needs. RMK has taken a number of promotional measures to popularise the concept of micro financing through intermediary organizations, thrift and credit, formation and stabilization of SHGs and also enterprise development for poor women.

Administrative Set Up

10.2 A Governing Board consisting of 16 members representing various Central Ministries / Departments, State Governments, Specialists and Representatives of Organizations active in the field of micro-credit administers RMK. The Minister of State for Women and Child Development (Independent Charge) 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 its internal resources without depending on budgetary support from the Ministry of women and Child Development.

Credit – delivery Mechanism

10.4 Credit is disbursed to the women SHGs both in the rural and urban areas through intermediary organizations like NGOs, Co-operative Societies, Government autonomous organizations, Not-for-Profit section 25 Companies, State Women Development Corporations, registered bodies and federations of women etc. There is no collateral.

Single Window Organization

10.5. It is a single-window organization. Apart from giving micro-credit, it also builds the capacities of SHGs / women members and partner organizations through trainings in financial including risk management, project

management, enterprise development, skill development / up-gradation, exposure visits, assistance in marketing to bring about holistic development.

10.6 Loan Schemes of RMK

- i) **Loan Promotion Scheme:** RMK provides smaller loan maximum upto Rs. 5 lakh to promote the activity of thrift and credit among newer and smaller but potentially capable organisations having atleast six months experience in formation of self-help-groups, thrift, credit and recovery management.
- ii) **Main Loan Scheme:** Organisations having minimum 3 years experience in thrift and credit activities are being considered under the scheme. A maximum loan upto Rs. 300 Lakhs can be given under the scheme but not more than 100 lakhs in one State.
- iii) **Revolving Fund Scheme:** Organisations having 5 years experience in the field of micro-credit with satisfactory track record are being considered under this scheme. The organisations can revolve principal amount sanctioned by RMK for income generation activities among the SHGs. Maximum loan of Rs. 300 lakhs as in the main loan scheme can be given under this scheme.
- iv) **Refinance Scheme:** RMK provides 100% refinance assistance to Urban Cooperative Banks / Mahila Co-operative Banks on finances provided by them to poor women either directly or through SHGs within the norms of the RMK Main Loan Scheme.
- v) **Franchisee Scheme:** Smaller NGOs of the State can avail loan directly from franchisee appointed by RMK for that particular State without sending their

proposal to RMK office at New Delhi. The Credit Limit under the scheme is Rs. 500 lakh.

- vi) **Gold Credit Pass Book Scheme:** This Scheme of providing hassle free finance has been designed for medium and large NGOs to revolve the fund sanctioned by RMK for 5 years. Maximum credit limit under this scheme is Rs. 500 lakhs.

- vii) **Housing Loan Scheme:**

To provide shelter / repair of houses to SHG members through partner organisations of RMK.

Maximum Rs. 50,000/- per beneficiary for construction of low cost house / repairs.

- viii) **Family Loan Scheme:**

For medical needs / marriage / education / funeral / birth / festivals / religious occasions / purchase of foodgrains & foodstuff / ration / clothing.

- ix) **Working Capital Term Loans:**

- RMK provides hassle-free Working Capital Term Loan to the organisations for backward and forward marketing linkages of products of women SHGs/ individuals and group entrepreneurs including technology transfer, education, skill up gradation and infrastructure development.
- The maximum amount of loan Rs. 300 lakhs, but not more than Rs. 100 lakhs in one State.

- x) **Repeat Loan:**

Repeat Loans is also available to the organisations on successful utilization of first loan. The borrowing organisation has to repay 50% of its existing loan.

10.7 Eligibility Norms for the Intermediary Organizations

- i. The organization applying for loan should have broad based objectives, serving the social and economic needs of the poor women. It must not work for profit.
- ii. The organization should have necessary professional competence, basic financial management capability and organizational skills to implement the lending programme.
- iii. The office bearers of the organization should not be elected representatives of any political party.
- iv. The organization should have proper system of maintaining accounts, which should have been audited and published every year and there should not have been any serious irregularities.
- v. The organization should be registered for more than 3 years on the date of application to RMK.
- vi. The organization should have experience in thrift and credit management for 3 years or more. (Six months for applying under the Loan Promotion Scheme).
- vii. The application should clearly reflect the source of funds utilized earlier for credit.
- viii. Recoveries of the loans given to its members earlier should be at least 90%.
- ix. There should be proper and specific clause / provision in the Bye-laws / Memorandum of Association of the organization having power to borrow or raise loans from any outside agency.

- x. There should be appropriate reflection in the organization's audited accounts and balance sheet in respect of its experience in providing credit and recoveries etc. Audited accounts should reflect sound financial position.

10.8 Special Concessions in the North East Region

In order to remove the uneven presence of micro-credit in the country which is witnessed mostly in North-Eastern region due to poor presence of banking net-work, lack of infrastructure and awareness, RMK has formulated a concessional package for the voluntary organisations of the North-Eastern region for easy access of credit from RMK to meet the credit needs of the poor women of this region. The concessions are:

- The organization having completed one year of its registration (presently 3 years) can apply for the loan.
- Margin on loan reduced from 10% to 5%.
- The grace period on repayment of loan enhanced from 6 months to 12 months.
- The repayment period of loan enhanced to five years invariably for all schemes.
- The NGOs to be supported with 10% of the loan sanctioned as capacity building assistance.
- To provide second class sleeper rail fare and where there is no rail link, cheaper class to and fro Air fare to the members of NGOs (up to 2 numbers) for coming to Delhi for execution of documents.

Activities

A. Supporting Intermediary Organizations

10.9 RMK has a large NGO network in the country, which helps in creating awareness among the NGOs to integrate micro finance activities into their social sector interventions. RMK believes in women empowerment through micro financing. The partner organizations that take loans from RMK are instructed to impart literacy, education, awareness on health, hygiene, nutrition, HIV/ AIDS, legal rights etc. to the women SHG members, thus empowering them to improve their quality of life in totality. With a view to enable them to train their field functionaries, SHG members and grass-root level beneficiaries RMK, organizes Awareness cum Capacity Building Programmes to nurture the supporting intermediary organizations. It has initiated a number of innovative programmes during the current year. Four (4) one-week orientation trainings on Micro-finance and Income generation issues for partner NGOs including exposure visits were conducted during the year at NIPCCD training centers at Lucknow, Bangalore, Guwahati and Delhi. Apart from this, as part of special focus in the North-East Region, 5 awareness - generation and training workshops for NGOs / SHGs / Co-ops

in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya were organized by RMK, Arunanchal Pradesh and Maghalaya being maiden states.

B. Partnership

10.10 The micro finance programme of the RMK for the socio-economic upliftment of poor women through the SHGs is most successful one in the country where the recovery rate at the apex level is over 90 %. Therefore, a large number of voluntary organizations, government autonomous bodies, cooperative societies etc. are coming forward for financial intermediation. In this respect, during the period from 1.1.08 to 31.3.2009 new organizations that took loans from RMK were 117. The most important addition has been the Guwahati based Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi (RGVN), an organization set up by NABARD and Financial Institutions, who has come forward to become RMK's Franchisee in the North-East Region. It has been sanctioned loan of Rs. 255 lakhs.

C. Extending Outreach

10.11 Under its Nodal Agency Scheme, RMK has 22 Nodal Agencies in the country for credit linkages with new and potential NGOs with a view to expand its outreach in a most cost effective manner in the marginally and uncovered

Nodal Agencies

RMK has 22 Nodal Agencies in the States of: Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttranchal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Nagaland

Note: Details at Annexure - LIV

Franchisees

RMK has appointed Franchisees in the following States:
Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, North-East Region, & Punjab

areas of the country. The performance of these Nodal Agencies is reviewed from time to time. Apart from Nodal Agency Scheme, RMK has another scheme called ‘Franchisee’. Under its Franchisee Scheme, it has 5 Franchisees. RMK extends bulk finance to Franchisees who in turn on-lend it to smaller and potential NGOs of the State/ District with similar terms and conditions as prescribed by RMK.

D. Innovative Financing, Marketing and Capacity Building

Recent Initiatives

10.12 The Eleventh Plan provides an opportunity to restructure policies to achieve a new vision of growth that will be much more broad based and inclusive, bring about a faster reduction in poverty and helping bridge the divides that are currently the focus of so much attention. Further, the Eleventh Plan envisages to bring about a major expansion in schemes for micro-finance based on Self – Help Groups, particularly in the backward and ecologically fragile areas of the country.

Expanding outreach in the under-served areas

10.13 One of the innovative initiatives is that RMK has appointed Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi (RGVN) based in Guwahati Assam as its Franchisee for the North Eastern Region. For the first time the State of Arunachal Pradesh and UT Andaman & Nicobar Islands were financed by RMK in the year under report. Similarly, after a span of 13 years, with lot of efforts RMK could bring three (3) NGOs from Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) to its credit fold by sanctioning them Rs.90 lakhs loan in the current year after the J&K Women’s Development Corporation

Limited was given micro-credit by RMK in 1996 and thereafter there was no loaning in J & K.

Credit-deepening in the Co-operative sector

a) Women Co-operative Banks:

10.14 Two Women Cooperative Banks viz Indore Swayamsidha Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd. Indore (Madhya Pradesh) and Konoklata Mahila Urban Cooperative Bank Jorhat (Assam) have been provided with re-finance of Rs. 100 lakh and Rs. 13.40 lakh respectively. Another Women Bank viz. Manjra Mahila Urban Coop. Bank, Bidar (Karnataka) was sanctioned main loan of Rs. 100 lakh.

b) Govt Apex Co-operative Federations:

10.15 Madhya Pradesh State Cooperative Dairy Federation was sanctioned Rs.500 lakh as franchisee for the second time in the State of Madhya Pradesh. Similarly, another Apex cooperatives’ federation namely Punjab State Co-operative Handloom Federation Ltd. (WEAVCO) has been associated by way of sanction of Rs. 75 lakh as franchisee for financing women cooperative societies.

c) Women Federations:

10.16 In Andhra Pradesh 11 Mandal Samakhya (Block Level Women Federations) were disbursed Rs. 275 lakh.

d) Co-operative Societies:

10.17 A Credit Cooperative namely, Cauvery Mahila Credit Co-operative Society, Kolar (Karnataka) and a Milk Co-operative, Krantimata

Laxmibai Nayakawadi Mahila Sahakari Dudh Utpadak Sansthan, Sangli, (Maharashtra), have been sanctioned their first loans.

10.18 Thus, a salient feature of RMK's financing is that during this period for the first time, apart from exclusive Women Co-operative structures like Cooperative Banks, Cooperative Societies, Federations, Apex State Govt. Federations are leveraging more and more funds from RMK for expanding their outreach among women members. Collectively, these efforts have resulted in reaching out to 5820 more women borrowers.

Marketing

10.19 Marketing is an essential component of SHGs. Realizing the importance of backward & forward linkages particularly in a globalised world where market-led demand has opened up new opportunities and avenues for women, the Ministry of Women and Child Development and RMK have been pro-active in providing marketing platform and enterprise development to enable the SHGs in rural and remote places of the country to display and sell their regional and traditional products like households items, decoratives & handicrafts, handlooms articles, variety clothes, ready made garments, food products etc. at national/international trade fairs. In this connection, on behalf of the Ministry RMK organized and managed two week long exhibition cum sales fair in the IITF 2008 at Pragti Maidan, New Delhi in November 2008, in which over 300 members from the NGOs/ SHGs from all over the country displayed and sold their beautiful ware.

10.20 Separately too, RMK, at the behest of its partner NGOs / organizations, assist them in their marketing activities e.g. Women Development

Organisation, Dehradun, Uttrakhand were helped in certifying their capacity, quality and cost of Barrack Blankets, Durries etc. for supplies to the Directorate General of Supplies & Disposal, Government of India.

Orientation Trainings on Micro-finance and Income Generation Issues

10.21 During the period under reference, Four (4) one-week Orientation Trainings on Micro-finance and Income Generation issues for partner and new NGOs were conducted in the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) Training Centres as under:

- i. Lucknow from 23 to 27 June, 2008 which was attended by 34 participants from UP, Rajasthan, Uttranchal and Jharkhand
- ii. Bangalore from 28.7.2008 to 1.8.2008 where 21 Participants from 4 states viz A.P., Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala took part
- iii. Guwahati from 13.10.2008 to 17.10.2008 which was attended by 30 participants from Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and West Bengal
- iv. New Delhi from 1st to 5th December, 2008 with 19 participants from Delhi, Haryana, Punjab and J & K.

Resource Centres

10.22 Resource Centres scheme is a recent initiative. Under this scheme, RMK identifies reputed Government Organizations / NGOs / Research Institutions / Universities / Academic Institutions having adequate infrastructure to

extend their services for capacity building, vocational trainings and skill development/upgradation, modern practices, technology transfer, micro-enterprise development, etc. to the SHG members / group leaders and implementing agencies.

10.23 During the year, RMK has approved the following Resource Centres one in the NER as part of its capacity building drive for the poor women and Government / Non Government Organizations as shown in Table-1

Table-1

Name of the Resource Centre	Training Areas
State Institute of Rural Development, GS Road, Khana Para, Guwahati - 781022	SHGs formation, Skill Development / Upgradation, Capacity Building in Management and Technology etc.
Barli Development Institute for Rural Woman 180, Bhamori, New Devas Road, Indore – 452010	Training in the Non-conventional energy related income generating activities integrated with Health and Women Empowerment.

Table-2

Sl. No.	Name of program	Date & place of holding
1.	2.	3.
1	Awareness Programme on Income generating activities & RMK Schemes	Aalo, Arunachal Pradesh on 05.09.08
2	Awareness Programme on RMK Schemes for NGOs	Itanagar, Arunachal pradesh on 07.09.08
3	Awareness Workshop for Representatives of Zila Parishad & Panchayat Samities and NGOs	Tawang, Arunachal pradesh on 09.09.08
4	Orientation training Programme on Micro-finance for NGOs. State Officials etc.	Guwahati 11.09.2008
5	Workshop on Micro-finance & Women Empowerment for NGOs, State Government & Municipal Councils etc.	Shillong, Meghalaya on 13.09.08

Awareness Training Programme for partner NGOs in North Eastern Region (NER)

10.24 In order to remove the uneven presence of micro-credit in the country, which is witnessed mostly in northeastern region due to poor presence

of banking network, lack of infrastructure and awareness, 5 Awareness Training Programmes were organized in the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya in the month of September, 2008.

Training and Capacity Building

10.25 The following Training and Capacity Building programmes were conducted in North East Region as per Table-2.

Table-1

Name of the Resource Centre	Training Areas
State Institute of Rural Development, GS Road, Khana Para, Guwahati - 781022	SHGs formation, Skill Development / Upgradation, Capacity Building in Management and Technology etc.
Barli Development Institute for Rural Woman 180, Bhamori, New Devas Road, Indore – 452010	Training in the Non-conventional energy related income generating activities integrated with Health and Women Empowerment.

Table-2

Total participation in these programmes was 695. The above mentioned specially designed awareness programmes evoked tremendous response among the participants and is being translated in to reality by way of dispensation / deepening of credit in these areas during the current year.

Special Initiatives for the North-East

10.26 RMK has taken a number of steps to increase its outreach in the inaccessible and far-flung areas in the North-East. The recent state in the eastern most frontier of the country which was brought under the credit net of the RMK was Arunachal Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The Rashtriya Gramin Vikash Nidhi (RGVN), a premier Micro-financing Institution in the North East Region was sanctioned Rs. 255.00 lakhs for on-lending to 38 NGOs.

Skill Development Training on Dairy Management

10.27 RMK arranged a three day training on dairy management for SHG members at its Resource Centre – Indian Institute of Spice Research, Calicut from 4 – 6 February, 2009.

Training cum Exposure Visit for RMK partners in Cooperative Sector

10.28 A four day training-cum-exposure visit for RMK partners in the cooperative sector was organized at Self Employed Women Association (SEWA), Ahmedabad, Gujarat from 2 – 5 February, 2009 to share their experiences and practices.

National Conference on Gender Issues –‘Harnessing Strengths and Reflecting Rights’ in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

10.29 RMK collaborated with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), under the **Public Private Partnership (PPP)** for the National Conference

on Gender Issues –‘Harnessing Strengths and Reflecting Rights’. The conference was held on March 5, 2009 at New Delhi. The conference discussed various issues related to gender and economic empowerment of women at different levels. One of the sessions was chaired by ED, RMK, with the following theme - **‘Though women are well educated and have innovative business ideas, when starting a business, they often face different barriers and circumstances than men. The four key issues, which need attention, are: problem awareness, support instruments, regional networks, educating and training’**. The collaboration was first of its kind and was a success.

E. International Co-operation & Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

Second Conference on ‘Micro-Finance and Women Economic Empowerment in SAARC Region’.

10.30 Rashtriya Mahila Kosh organized the Second Conference on ‘Micro-Finance and Women Economic Empowerment in SAARC Region’ on behalf of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, in collaboration with the SAARC Division of the Ministry of External Affairs on 16 May 2008. Apart from India, delegates from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal and Srilanka attended the conference. Executive Director, Rastriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) and Chief Executive Officer of “Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty”, India made the presentations, highlighting the important role of micro-finance in socio-economic empowerment of women in India. The following important decisions were taken in the Conference.

- The Member States would identify nodal focal points from relevant NGO’s for effective communication and better coordination and that the RMK to become the regional focal point.



SAARC Delegates with Sri. Anil Kumar, Secretary, MWCD

- SAARC Gender Infobase would be used as the primary reference point for the Member States to provide and update quantitative and qualitative information on micro-finance and women economic empowerment and as a tool to monitor and track regional progress and development.
- The Conference welcomed the offer of India to host two training programmes cum target oriented exposure visits for senior management/policy makers on micro-finance for the SAARC Member States to be organized in September and December 2008.

The Report of the Conference has since been approved at the summit of Heads of States of SAARC Member Countries in Colombo

in August 2008 and RMK has also organized the two training-cum-exposure visits for the SAARC countries' senior management/policy makers in October and December 2008 . The SAARC Conference, has paved the way for future road mapping of the economic, social and political empowerment of women especially the marginalized and the poorest of the poor ones, in the **SAARC** region.

Meeting of India-Brazil- Soth Africa (IBSA) Forum – on Self Help Groups and Empowerment of Women.

10.31 The Ministry of Women and Child Development organized a 2-day meeting of IBSA Women's Forum at New Delhi from

13-14 October, 2008 at Vigyan Bhawan. The Honb'le Ministers from Brazil, South Africa and India attended the meeting. The Minister of State for Women and Child Development (Independent Charge) inaugurated the meeting on 13.10.2008.

10.32 RMK co-chaired the technical session on "Self Help Groups and Empowerment of Women". During the session, a presentation was made on RMK's interventions in pursuing its objective of socio-economic empowerment of women through micro-finance. It was highlighted as to how RMK is adopting quasi-formal credit delivery mechanism for making credit accessible to the women self-help groups at the grass-root level. RMK's role in building up the capacities of the intermediary organizations and the women SHGs through trainings, exposure visits, skill upgradation trainings and marketing support was also presented. This was followed by discussions on various issues related to micro-finance like income-generation activities, skill-development / upgradation, and marketing linkages that need to be encouraged so that micro-finance fructifies into an effective tool in the hands of poor women. The delegates were also taken on an exposure visit to an exhibition of the hand-made products of the SHGs of poor women financed by RMK through its NGO partners. The delegates very much appreciated the products made by the SHGs.

Training-cum-Exposure visits on Micro-finance & Women Empowerment for Senior Management / Policy-makers of SAARC Member Nations – 20 to 25 October 2008 & 15 to 20 December 2008.

10.33 In the 2nd Conference on Micro-finance and Women Economic Empowerment in the SAARC region held in New Delhi on 16 May 2008, RMK was identified as the Regional

Focal Point for SAARC countries to coordinate with them with a view to enable the Member Countries to share some of the best/innovative practices in the field of micro-finance and women empowerment as experienced by India among other things. RMK honoured it's commitment by organising two Training cum Exposure visits on Micro-finance and women empowerment for senior management / policy makers from SAARC countries.

10.34. The first Training Cum Exposure visit on "Micro-finance & Women Empowerment" was organized during 20 - 25 Oct 2008. The exposure programme was inaugurated by, Executive Director (RMK) where the role of Rashtriya Mahila Kosh in promoting "Women Empowerment" through micro-finance was discussed. The participants visited SHGs financed by INDCARE, a partner NGO of RMK in Delhi who are carrying out various income generating activities like artificial jewellery making and petty trades. Besides, the participants also saw the kitchen run by SHGs for supply of mid-day meals to Govt. schools in Delhi.

The participants were taken to Uttarakhand State where " Women Development Organization" - partner and nodal agency of RMK, is undertaking income-generating activities and providing marketing linkages in the Government as well as private sector. RMK helps in certifying the capacity, quality & cost of Barrack Blankets, Durries etc. for supplies to the Directorate General of Supply & Disposal, Govt. of India. The partcipants visited clusters of SHGs engaged in Wool-blanket Making (Village Lodhi wala, Distt Hardwar) and Handloom Weaving/Knitting (at Village Imlikhera, District, Roorkee). A visit to an agro-forestry project being managed by the SHG members financed by the NGO, with RMK's assistance was also a very educative experience as it highlighted the

conservation/environment-management project being run by the women borrowers. Under the project, a locally available plant known as Sisal is grown in the degraded lands. The sisal leaves have a very strong fiber, which can be woven and made into a variety of eco-friendly and durable items. The participants also saw the marketing-linkages being provided by the NGO through different support mechanism including an emporium named “ SARV” being run by the SHG members. Thus the delegates were exposed to the entire gamut of support services like provision of backward and forward linkages, co-ordination with implementing / developmental / financial agencies etc.

10.35 The second Training cum Exposure visit was organized from 15 – 20 December 2008. The programme was inaugurated with a presentation from RMK after which the participants visited a cluster of SHGs financed by RMK micro-finance through an NGO partner called “Chetnalaya” in Delhi. The delegates had one to one interaction with them and saw their products like jute bags, bangles, garments, and paintings etc., which have very good market in the area.

10.36 The delegates then proceeded to a 4-day field visit to Alwar and Bharatpur Districts of Rajasthan where they had interaction with NGO partner named “Humana People to People Foundation”. The delegates interacted with the field staff, Saheli leaders, activity clusters and women micro-entrepreneurs engaged in Income-generating activities of handloom weaving, animal husbandry, grocery shops, floor mill run with diesel engine and indigenous technology in the village in the absence of electricity etc, and observed the meetings of SHG members, their record keeping and monitoring system as well as documentation. The participants also visited the training centre of the NGO where

they train their staff for carrying out field activities related to eradication of social evils and income generation activities leading to holistic development of women. in Harsora and Khorri villages in Behror and Bansur blocks.

10.37 The delegates after spending 2 days in Alwar district proceeded to Bharatpur district to visit LUPIN Human Welfare & Research Foundation, an NGO financed by RMK. The Divisional Commissioner of Bharatpur Division and the ED, LUPIN welcomed the members of delegation and apprised them of the developmental activities in Rajasthan relating to micro-finance and women empowerment. The role of RMK was lauded. The income generating activities like readymade garments and milk collection centres run by SHG members (Boochaka village), Kiosks (petty shops) of iron fabrication work, bangles shop etc. (Gulpara village), poultry farms, tulsi bead work and school boundary constructed by the women out of the savings of SHGs as a safeguard to the children (Kamam block) cosmetic shops, tailoring centres, STD/PCO run by SHG members, orchard development, floriculture, export quality tulsi beads, dairy development, milk collection centres and model dairy run by the women groups (Karan Singh Sewar, Deeg and Kumber blocks) were seen and appreciated by the delegates

Islamabad Visit as follow up of SAARC Micro finance Conference

10.38 ED, RMK attended, as a delegate, “Third Meeting of the Heads of National Coordination Committees to Implement the SAARC Social Charter” held at Islamabad on 4 & 5 th November 2008. During the meeting, ED briefed the delegates about the Second Conference on Micro-finance held on 16th May, 2008 in New Delhi and highlighted the achievements of the

First Training cum Exposure Visit organized by RMK during October 2008 in New Delhi and Uttarakhand State.

Training cum Exposure visits on Micro-finance & Women Empowerment for Seven Member Delegation led by Ms. Aum Rensy Dem, wife of the Prime Minister of Bhutan from 1 – 3 February 2009 and subsequent visit by 34 members from 18-23 March 2009

10.39 A seven member delegation led by Hon'ble Ms. Aum Rensy Dem, spouse of the Prime Minister of Bhutan visited Bharatpur based RMK NGO viz LUPIN Foundation from 1 – 3 February, 2009 in Rajasthan to see the socio-economic empowerment activities through RMK micro-credit to SHGs. As a follow-up, another delegation of 34 women

from Bhutan visited India from 18-23 March, 2009 for similar exposure to the micro-credit and empowerment activities being carried out in India by RMK. The group visited RMK partner NGOs Lupin foundation of India, Bharatpur District of Rajasthan and Social Action for Rural Development of Hill Areas (SARDA), Sirmour District of Himachal Pradesh.

F. Participation in India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2008 at New Delhi from 14.11.2008 to 27.11.2008 under the theme ‘Empowerment of Women’.

10.40 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been promoting the Self-Help Groups (SHGs) of poor women in thousands in the country for their holistic empowerment with a view to give the SHGs members and women micro-entrepreneurs an opportunity to



Bhutan Delegation led by wife of Bhutan Prime Minister Honourable (Ms) Aum Rensy Dem being welcomed in traditional manner in Rajasthan; on the right is Smt. Sneh Lata Kumar, Executive Director, RMK



Bhutan delegation led by wife of PM of Bhutan, (MS) Aum Rensy Dem interacting with SHG members who have availed Micro-credit from RMK

exhibit and sell their products, interact with urban consumers & business community, understand the positive and negative aspects of their products after taking into consideration the existing market trends and accordingly make improvements in the quality, design and prices so as to make them more saleable. The Ministry participated in the IITF 2008, New Delhi from 14.11.2008 to 27.11.2008 under the theme '**Empowerment of Women**'.

10.41 RMK, being the nodal agency for IITF 2008, organized the Ministry's pavilion. There were 99 stalls set up for over 300 women participants of 150 Self Help Groups and NGOs from 22 States. The stalls were given free to the participants. Self Help Groups from Afghanistan coordinated by SEWA Gujarat in collaboration with Ministries of Commerce and

Women & Child Development also participated. The women representatives of SHGs and NGOs, who had come from remote villages of India to Delhi, were ranging from upcoming women entrepreneurs in the age group of 21-22 years as well as the simple, traditional artisans of plus 55 years.

10.42 Products on exhibition-cum-sale were as diverse in their range, prices, beauty and craftsmanship as in their geographical coverage. The products included - **handmade items** like durries, handlooms, dress materials, saris, bed sheets, garments; jute items; brass items; cane and wood products; paintings; beadwork; **eco-friendly products** made from trash, local grasses and dry flowers; stone jewellery, 'agarbattis', woolens and embroidery items; **food stuff** like pickles, dry fruits & sweets

traditional leather items, household decorative items, furniture, herbal products, coconut based products, terracotta items etc.

10.43 The Ministry of Women and Child Development's pavilion in the India International Trade Fair 2008 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi was a grand success. It provided an opportunity to the participants from all parts of the country and also from Afghanistan to interact and exchange their views regarding the activities and products produced by Self Help Groups in their respective country and RMK micro-finance programmes. The fair also provided a forum, which helped to cross-fertilize the knowledge of the participants.

G. Cumulative Performance of RMK since its inception to 31.03.2009.

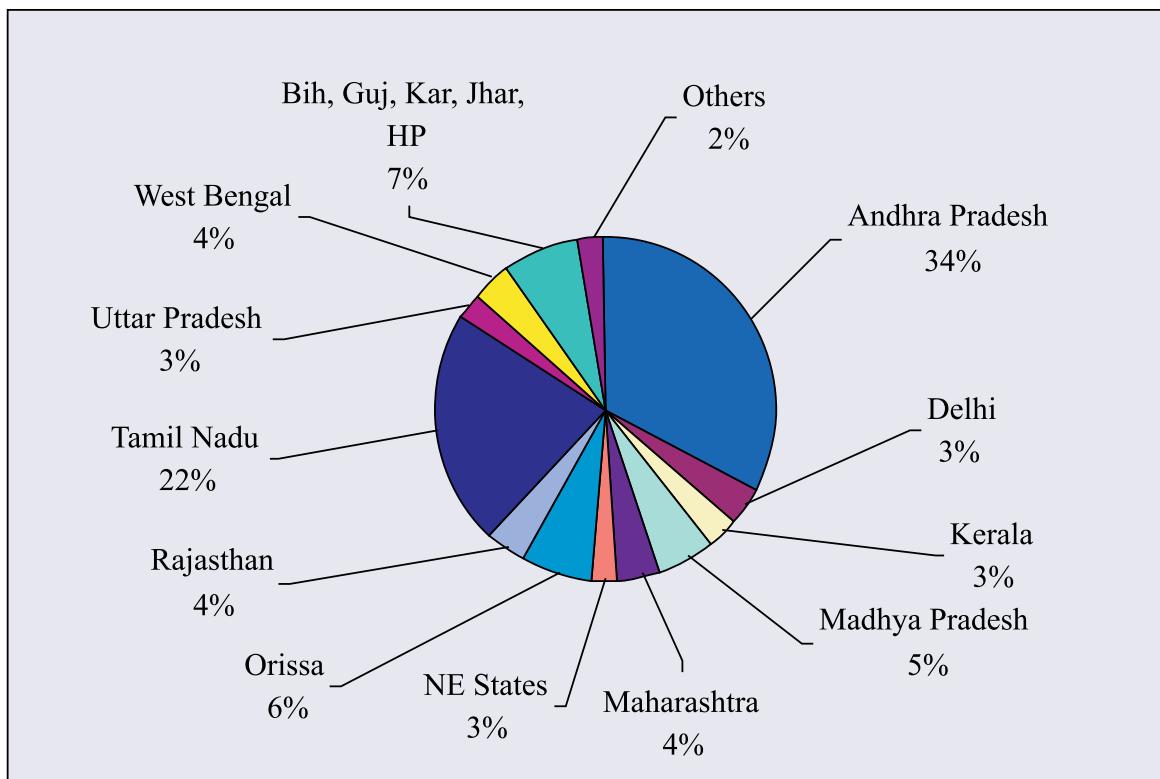
10.44 The RMK has extended its network

across the country. As on 31.3.2009, RMK had sanctioned loans of Rs.280.03 crore benefiting 6,58,746 poor women. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 223.70 crore was disbursed. Details of loans sanctioned, released and number of beneficiaries covered is given in the annexed statement as **Annexure – LV**.

During the year from April 2008 to 31st March 2009 RMK sanctioned loans amounting to Rs.30.30 crore benefiting 36,166 poor women. Out of this sanctioned amount Rs.26.48 crore was disbursed among the beneficiaries. State / UTwise details of the loans sanctioned, disbursed and number of beneficiaries are given in the statement attached as **Annexure – LVI**.

List of organisations who have been sanctioned and disbursed loans during 1.4.2007 to 31.3.2008 and 1.1.2008 to 31.3.2009 may be seen at **Annexure - LVII and LVIII** respectively.

RMK Performance at a glance



H. Some Success Stories of the Women Benefited from RMK - SHG beneficiaries through Micro Finance.

Bihar

10.45 The Jan Jagran Kendra, a local NGO in Hazaribagh District of Bihar is assisting its SHG members including the Kiran Bachat Samiti by extending them micro credit from RMK. Kiran Bachat Samiti (SHG) is a group of 20 women in a village called Sindpur of Barhi Panchayat Samiti in Hazaribagh District. The group members individually get loan from the Samiti to purchase animals like cows, goats etc. with a view to increase their monthly income. But one of the members Mrs. Geeta Devi had other plans in mind. She applied for micro-credit assistance from RMK through the NGO for starting a Bicycle Repair Shop. She got success in the trade. Mrs. Geeta Devi has achieved a greater economic status in her family. She has a greater say in the decision-making process of the family. The micro-credit support has helped Mrs. Geeta Devi to live a life of dignity, respect and self-reliance. Mrs. Geeta Devi is of the view that for her success the credit should go to RMK and the local NGO Jan Jagran Kendra without their help this was not possible.

Delhi

10.46 Integrated National Development Centre for Advancements Reforms and Education (INDCARE) a Delhi based NGO after obtaining financial credit from RMK is successfully working with slum urban and rural poor women in different part of the city with a view to improving their living conditions and quality of life. INDCARE promotes such SHGs, Cooperatives, Mahila Chetna Munch, which are instrumental in addressing the immediate social and economic basic needs of the poor women.

10.47. INDCARE has formed 1600 SHGs of nearly 50,000 women. In Delhi the organization with the help of MCD and Delhi Administration is implementing the Mid Day Meal Schemes for 1,00,000 children of 164 government run Primary Schools. The SHG Members have been facilitated in such a way that they directly involve themselves in the management part of the programme. 1500 women are currently engaged in this programme. INDCARE is extending them vocational skill development and training with a view to increase their technical and social competencies and working methods. The pilot project is working successfully. It includes – i) Successful coordination / Partnership between Government and Non-Government Organisations, ii) Generation of gainful regular employment opportunity, iii) Capacity enhancement through training and exposure, iv) Reduction in drop out rates of children from schools, v) Increase level of quality and nutritional aspects, vi) Control in ensuring quality and quantity as per norms and provisions, vii) Addressing the gender aspect and viii) Scope for replicability.

Madhya Pradesh

10.48 Madhya Pradesh State Cooperative Dairy Federation Ltd., Bhopal is working for the empowerment of women by forming them in SHGs. The Federation has a number of SHGs. The Dairy federation received micro-credit assistance from RMK for its members. All the members associated with the federation not only got financial help but also received training for their capacity building etc.

10.49. Smt Basanta Manohar is a member of Love Kush Mahila Self Help Group, which is

affiliated with the federation. She belongs to a very poor family. It was difficult for her to feed her large family before joining the Group. Through the group she received financial assistance from RMK for purchase of a cow of good breed, which gives around 10 litre of milk per day. By selling cow milk to the Milk Samiti she gets good return. After meeting all the expenditure she has a regular income of around Rs.1500/- to Rs.1600/- per month. This income has made her to live with dignity in the society. She could arrange a better marriage for her daughter and also give education to her children, which was not possible before becoming the member of the SHG. She has put her children in school. The micro-credit support has helped Mrs. Basanta Manohar to live a life of self-reliance. Mrs. Basanta Manohar says that the change in her life would not have been possible if there was no financial assistance from RMK.

10.50. Similarly Mrs. Mamta Subhas is a divorcee and member of the Jai Yogeshwar Self Help Group. She belongs to a poor family of agricultural labourers and was leading a very poor life. She and other members of her group approached RMK through the Indore Milk Federation for micro credit assistance. Through her group she got micro credit assistance from RMK for the purchase of a buffalo. She started selling milk to the Cooperative Milk Society, Indore. Now she has repaid the loan and earning a monthly income of around Rs.2000/- per month. She does not depend on any one since she has a regular income of Rs.2000/-, which is sufficient for her to live a life of dignity in the society. She is thankful to the Indore Milk Federation and R.M.K. for extending her micro credit help.

10.51 There is yet another example of Jai Durga Self Help Group consisting of 20 members

associated with Dugdh Sahkari Samiti, Marya, Bhillai. The group got micro-finance help from RMK for purchase of milking animals. Before joining the group the women members were working as labourers and living a life full of misery. On receipt of micro credit assistance from RMK, these dedicated women purchased cow/buffalos and started selling milk to the Samiti and earned a good profit, which was shared by the members. This, however, created awareness among the group members for better maintenance of milking animals. Not only this, these women started selling cows to other members and making a good profit for the group. The micro-credit support has helped the group members to live a life with dignity in the society.

Rajasthan

10.52 LUPIN Human Welfare and Research Foundation is a grass root NGO working in the selected villages for its economic development. Nagala Harchand in Block Kama of Bharatpur district is one of the selected villages. The villagers in the village are generally agricultural labourers and are not only backward but also very poor. The NGO formed a number of SHGs of men and women. Women were more enthusiastic than men. Therefore, they took active part in formation of several groups. Proper training was given to the groups by the NGO for different trades. Women preferred Tulsi Mala making and animal husbandry. A request for micro credit assistance was made to RMK through the LUPIN Foundation and the loans were provided to these groups by the NGO. The business of Mala-making picked up and the sale increased. Similarly, income from the sale of milk was increased. The economic condition of the village improved to a great extent. The social status of the villagers rose to

a great extent. The women of the village joined the mainstream of development. It helped in raising the educational standard of the villagers. All the evil activities prevalent in the village being backward reduced substantially and the village achieved its full economic development. The micro credit assistance given by RMK to the SHG members through the NGO – Lupin Human Welfare & Research Foundation made all the economic and social development of the village possible.

Tamil Nadu

10.53 Madhar Nala Thondu Niruvanam (MNTN), a grass root NGO, formed a number of SHGs. One of the SHGs is. – Sun Self Help Group consisting of 15 members. The economic condition of the group members was very poor before joining the SHG. The MNTN imparted the group training for income generating programme. After obtaining proper training, MNTN approached RMK for micro-credit assistance for the group. A loan was sanctioned to the Self Help Group for milk dairy business. This business gave them enough profits. The profit is shared among the group members. This has enabled them to raise their standard of living, their status in the society, given them the opportunity to educate their children and live a life of self-respect with dignity. Encouraged by the success of the group other women of the area followed the model for their SHG. The group members are all praise for the financial assistance given by RMK through the NGO.

Uttarakhand

10.54 Women's Development Organization (WDO) is a registered organization under

Societies Registration Act 1860 since 1990. WDO is working as an “Apex Body” for marketing of products manufactured / produced by rural folk/ women. WDO is working with 4-tier system i.e. WDO-head office on all India basis- State projects office-related registered Societies – at grass root level and – Self Help Groups. Generally Self – Help Groups (SHGs) consist of 10 to 20 members. But the area where WDO is working formation of large group is difficult. Therefore, SHGs formed by WDO consist of 5-15 members at grass root level in the village, remote and backward areas. These groups are mobilized after providing necessary training for capacity building apart from facilities available through training for woolen & cotton articles. WDO organized 10 groups with 15 members each for making Barrack Blankets Thus 150 members were grouped for barrack blankets making. Separately there are 450 family members associated with these groups in different villages. Thus 600 members of traditional weaver families were associated. Similarly 300 women members in 20 groups with 15 members in each group were formed by WDO. In these groups about 900 family members were associated from traditional weavers families. Thus WDO was able to add 1200 more families' members in their SHGs. Another 20 groups consisting of 15 members were formed in the subsequent years. These groups nominated 10 members from their groups to form a Federation and registered it in a society. All the members of these 50 SHGs consisting of 900 families indirectly became member of the Federation so that all the 3000 members jointly can work at their convenience. In the beginning the WDO representative viz the Secretary guided the federation, till it became independent and self-sustainable.

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS

Annual Report 2008-09



Ministry of Women & Child Development

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

11.1 The **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** was set up by Government of India on 5th March, 2007 under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 as a statutory body to protect, promote and defend Child Rights in the country.

11.2 Since creation of the Commission, Dr. (Mrs.) Shantha Sinha continues to be its Chairperson. The other Members who have since been appointed are Ms. Sandhya Bajaj and Ms. Dipa Dixit

Mandate

11.3 The Commission has following mandate:

- (i) To 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) To 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) To examine all factors inhibiting the enjoyment of rights of children affected by terrorism, riots, torture and exploitation, disaster, domestic violence, HIV / AIDS, trafficking, maltreatment, pornography and prostitution and recommend appropriate remedial measures;
- (iv) To look into the matters relating to children in distress, marginalized and disadvantaged children without family and children of prisoners and recommend appropriate remedial measures;
- (v) To spread child rights literacy and promote awareness of the safeguards available for protection of these rights;
- (vi) To inspect or cause to be inspected any Juvenile or custodial homes, or any other institution meant for children, under the control of Central Government or any State Government or any other authority, including any institution run by Social Organisations; 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;
- (vii) To inquire into the violation of child rights including *suo motu* notice and recommend initiation of proceedings with appropriate authorities;
- (viii) To study treaties and other international instruments and undertake periodical review of existing law, policies, programmes and other activities on child rights and make recommendations for their effective implementation in the best interest of children;

- (ix) Such other functions as it may consider necessary for the promotion of child rights and any other matter incidental to the above functions :

Powers

11.4 The powers given to the Commission according to the Act are as follows :

- (i) Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining them on oath;
- (ii) Discovery and production of any document;
- (iii) Receiving evidence on affidavits;
- (iv) Requisitioning of any public record or copy thereof from any court of office;
- (v) Issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents;
- (vi) To forward any case to a Magistrate having jurisdiction to try the same and the Magistrate to whom any such case is forwarded shall proceed to hear the complaint against the accused as if the case has been forwarded to him under section 346 of the Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 (2 of 1974).
- (vii) The Commission may take any of the following steps upon the completion of an inquiry:
- (viii) where the inquiry discloses, the Commission of violation of child rights of a serious nature or contravention of provisions or any law for time being in force, it may recommend to the concerned Government or authority the initiation of proceedings for prosecution or such other action as the Commission may deem fit against the concerned person or persons;

- (ix) Approach the Supreme Court or the High Court concerned for such directions, orders or writs as that Court may deem necessary;

- (x) Recommend to the concerned Government or authority for the grant of such interim relief to the victim or the members of his family as the Commission may consider necessary:

Setting - up of Office:

11.5 During the year under report, position of Staff in the Commission is as under :

S. No	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Person in Position
1.	Director	1	1
2.	Registrar	1	1
3.	Presenting officer	1	-
4.	Assistant Director	1	1
5.	DSP	1	1
6.	Accounts Officer	1	-
7.	Desk Officer	1	-
8.	PPS	7	2
9.	Personal Assistant	3	2
10.	Research Assistant	1	-
11.	Hindi Translator	1	-
12.	Assistant	2	2
13.	Accounts clerk	1	-
14.	Hindi Typist	1	-
15.	Clerk	2	-
16.	Constables	2	1
17.	Group 'D'	8	-
	Total	35	11

ACTIVITIES

Complaints on Child Rights Violations

11.6 During the year 2008-09, the Commission received several complaints / representations concerning issues of child labour, right to education, sexual abuse, corporal punishment, Juvenile Justice and child abuse etc. Reports have been called from concerned authorities in such cases. Action has been taken in some of these cases by concerned authorities in response to the Commission's intervention.

Working groups

11.7 Based upon the report of the Working Group on 'Child Labour and Right to Education', the Commission has submitted a document to Government of India containing a paper on the issues and recommendations for changes in the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. The Working Group constituted by the Commission on the 'Functioning of Juvenile

Justice System' has submitted its Report to the Commission. Based on this report, some key recommendations and guidelines are being issued by the Commission for reforms in the Juvenile Justice System in the Country.

11.8 The Report of the Working Group on 'Corporal Punishment in Schools and Institutions' is under consideration of the Commission. A Working Group on 'Female Feticide and Infanticide' has been constituted by the Commission on 28 April, 2008. The Report of the Working Group is under finalisation. Two more Working Groups have also been constituted by the Commission on 'Children in Teleserials / Competitive Reality Shows / Advertisement' and 'Protection of Rights of Children at Railway Platforms'.

Conferences, Seminar and Workshops

11.9 The Commission has organized about 24 Conferences / Workshops / Meets during the year 2008-09. Some of the important events are mentioned below:



Dr. Shantha Sinha, Chairperson, NCPNR explaining the activities of NCPNR to Honourable M.P.s at NCPNR office in March 2008

- (i) National Consultation on “Abolition of Child Labour and Right to Education” with Labour Secretaries / Commissioners of the States / UTs in New Delhi on 8th August, 2008.
- (ii) Consultation for a “National Level Advocacy Campaign Against Corporal Punishment” in New Delhi on 22nd September 2008.
- (iii) National Consultation with concerned National Level Statutory Commissions on ‘Abolition of Child Labour and Right to Education’ in New Delhi on 7th November, 2008.
- (iv) National Convention on “Right to Education and Abolition of Child Labour : Towards Freedom and Dignity for all Children” in New Delhi on 11th and 12th December 2008.
- (v) Meet on ”Children Suffering from Anorectal Disorders” on 6th January, 2009.
- (vi) Consultation with Media on “Campaign Against Corporal Punishment” held in New Delhi on 19th February, 2009.
- (vii) “Judicial Colloquium on Right to Education” in collaboration with Human Rights Law Network on 21st and 22nd February, 2009.
- (viii) Meet on “Non-Institutional Care and Child Friendly Homes” held on 25th February, 2009 in New Delhi.
- (ix) Workshop on “Positive Mental Health and Wellbeing of Children in Institutional Care” on 6th – 7th February, 2009.

Besides, the Commission also organized State Level Consultations during July – December,

2008 on the issue of “Abolition of Child Labour and Right to Education” at Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kolkata and Lucknow in collaboration with UNICEF. The deliberations were held on the current concerns, discourse and perspectives on children’s rights with educationists, child right activists, policy makers and NGOs.

National Visits and Interactions

11.10 In order to get a first hand insight into the conditions of children and implementation of policies and programmers of the Government and non-government sector, the Chairperson and Members visited various parts of the country. The States visited include Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Karnataka, West Bengal, Orissa, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra. During their visits, meetings were held with the Chief Secretaries / Secretaries to discuss issues relating to children. The Commission also held wide range of consultations with various authorities in the Government, Judiciary as well as Civil Society in the field visits.

Visit to North-East

11.11 The Chairperson along with the Members visited the States of Assam, Manipur and Tripura to review situation and issues relating to children. A public hearing was held in Thoubal in Manipur, which was attended by social activists, children, parents, government officials and NACO. The Commission interacted with the Chief Secretary and other Secretaries to the State Government of Manipur to provide Anti Retroviral Therapy and rehabilitation of children affected with AIDS. A public hearing was held in Chirang District in Assam to discuss the issues concerning children in relief camps.



*Minister of State for Women & Child Development (Independent Charge)
Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, flanked by Dr. Shantha Sinha, Chairperson, NCPCCR, ILO and
UNICEF Representatives during the workshop on World Day Against Child Labour organized by
NCPCCR on 12th June 2008 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi*

Visit to Andhra Pradesh

11.12 The Chairperson and Members in June 2008 visited Adilabad District in Andhra Pradesh to look into the plight of tribals, particularly children reeling under extreme malnutrition, anaemia and other diseases in Narnoor Mandal, district Adilabad. Meetings were held with the State Chief Secretary and Secretaries of Department of Health, Education and Women and Child Welfare taking up the burning issues.

Visit to Chattisgarh

11.13 A Team led by Mrs. Dipa Dixit, Member, NCPCCR had a follow-up visit to Chhattisgarh in

January '08 to study the status of schools and health facilities in Suquma and Budidi Blocks in Dantewara district of the State.

Visit to Bihar

11.14 The Chairperson visited Bihar in June 2008 to see the Bridge Course Camp at Jamui District to monitor Camps working for release of girls from work and mainstreaming them into formal system of education. Issues of child marriage and lack of upper primary schools were presented as challenges by the girls in their testimonies. A meeting was also held with the Chief Secretary and other concerned State dignitaries to review the Sarva Shiksha Abiyan.

Visit to Haryana

11.15 The Chairperson and Member (Mrs. Sandhya Bajaj) visited Hathin Block in the Mewat region of Palwal District of Haryana on 2nd March, 2009 to hold a Public Hearing on the issues relating to lack of basic amenities / facilities in large number of schools.

International Visits

11.16 The Chairperson visited Manila in August 2008 to participate in the International Conference on “Changing Asia”, organized by Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation focusing on poverty and inequality, environment degradation and social conflict. She also visited Bern, Switzerland to attend the “Expert Consultation” on “Legal Frameworks, Procedures and Enforcement : Preventing and Responding to Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents” towards preparation for the meeting of the World Congress III Against Sexual Exploitation of Children & Adolescents, in Rio, Brazil. In the meeting the Chairperson discussed the role of Ombudspersons network in monitoring violation of rights of children. Smt. Sandhya Bajaj, Member of the Commission also attended the meeting. The Chairperson and Member (Mrs. Sandhya Baja) participated in the III World Congress Against Sexual Exploitation of Children in Rio, Brazil from 25th – 28th November, 2008. Mrs Dipa Dixit, Member, NCPCCR participated in the South Asia Regional Symposium on Social Protection in Dhaka held from UNICEF 16th – 17th April, 2008. She also

participated in the Regional Training organized by UNICEF South Asian Regional Office in Kathmandu from 13th – 17th May, 2008. She also attended the Conference on Violation Against Girls held in Hague (Netherlands) from 9th – 10th March, 2009.

Public Hearings

11.17 A Public Hearing was conducted in Chirang District during the Commission’s visit to Assam from 5th – 6th September, 2008. The issues which came up during public hearing were health, nutrition, education, water and sanitation, relief/ ration / food security, child and maternal death, etc. Another Public Hearing was also conducted in Narsingpura of North Tripura District during Commission’s visit to Tripura from 7th – 9th September, 2008. The cases relating to health, nutrition, education, water & sanitation, relief / ration / food security, child and maternal deaths etc. were presented before the Commission in this hearing. The Commission had also a public hearing at Satna on 10th February 2009 and at Bhopal on 11th February on the issue of child malnutrition and violation of child rights. The Commission had also a Public Hearing at Rupraka Village, Palwal District of Haryana on 2nd March, 2009. In this hearing, the issues that came up pertained to inadequate teachers and class rooms, non-availability of boundary walls, toilets and drinking water, etc. in many schools. The grievances heard in these Public Hearings have been taken up with concerned Departments / Authorities in respective States with specific recommendations for remedial measures.

CENTRAL ADOPTION RESOURCE AUTHORITY

Annual Report 2008-09



12



Ministry of Women & Child Development

Central Adoption Resource Authority

12.1 Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA) was set up on 20th June, 1990. It was registered as an autonomous body under the Registration of Societies Act, 1860 on 18.03.1999. It was designated as Central Authority by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment on 17.7.2003 for the implementation of the Hague Convention on Protection of Children & Cooperation in respect of Inter-country Adoption (1993). Subsequently, the name of the Central Adoption Resource Agency has been changed to Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) w.e.f. 17th July 2007. On the recommendation of State Governments, CARA gives recognition to agencies to facilitate inter- country adoptions. It also gives enlistment to foreign adoption agencies, as recognized under the appropriate laws of their own country, and recommended by Indian Missions abroad. So far, CARA has recognized 73 Indian Placement Agencies in the country and 91 Enlisted Foreign Adoption Agencies, excluding Government Departments in 24 countries for Inter- country adoption.

12.2 The overall goal of CARA has been to promote domestic adoption and regulate inter-country adoption as provided under Guidelines of Government of India. CARA also works as Programme Division for implementing Sishu Greh Scheme and grant-in-aid to Adoption Coordinating Agencies (ACAs).

Management Committee

12.3 CARA consists of both official and non-official members and takes important decisions relating to programme matters. Day-to-day matters are looked after by the Member Secretary of CARA as Chief Executive Officer.

Staff

12.4 CARA has 08 officers and 19 other staff members.

Mandate

12.5 CARA has the mandate to promote domestic adoption and regulate inter-country adoption in the country.

Functions

12.6 The function of the CARA are :

- To act as the Central Authority with regard to adoption matters as envisaged under the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Inter country Adoption, 1993.
- To coordinate with the State Governments for promoting in-country adoption and all other related adoption matters including

- regulation and monitoring of Recognised Indian Placement Agencies (RIPAs) and ACAs.
- To recognize/renew the Indian Placement Agencies as accredited bodies for processing inter-country adoption cases and to regulate, inspect and monitor their functioning.
 - To enlist/renew enlistment of foreign adoption agencies as authorized bodies to sponsor applications for inter country Adoption of Indian children.
 - To act as a clearing house of information in regard to abandoned/relinquished/orphaned children available for both inter-country and in-country adoption;
- To issue No-objection Certificate in each case of inter-country adoption;
 - To frame and implement Guidelines for inter-country adoption;
 - To issue Guidelines towards common policies, procedures & practices on in-country adoption;
 - To promote and popularize the concept of adoption through publicity and awareness activities;
 - To orient and sensitize the NGOs, Government Officials, Medical Professionals, Judicial & Police Officers about adoption through trainings and workshops.

12.7 Budget of CARA

Non-Plan

Financial Year	Budget Estimate (Rs. in Crores)	Revised Estimate (Rs. in Crores)	Actual Expenditure (Rs. in Crores)
2004-2005	1.40	1.30	1.19
2005-2006	1.35	1.35	1.26
2006-2007	1.50	1.50	1.39
2007-2008	1.50	1.50	1.29
2008-2009	2.00	2.00	1.37 (as on 31/03/2009)

Plan

Financial Year	Budget Estimate (Rs. in Crores)	Revised Estimate (Rs. in Crores)	Actual Expenditure (Rs. in Crores)
2007-2008	2.00	2.00	00.77
2008-2009	*2.00	1.55	1.01 (as on 31/03/2009)

* Inclusive of Rs. 20 lakhs for NE region.

12.8 Associated Agencies

- i. **Recognised Indian Placement Agencies (RIPAs) :** At present, there are 73 adoption agencies recognized by CARA for placing children in inter-country adoption.
- ii. **Sishu Grehs:** There are 76 units of Sishu grehs (run by NGOs and Government run Homes) getting grant under Sishu Greh Scheme to promote domestic adoption.
- iii. **Enlisted Foreign Adoption Agencies (EFAAs):** There are 91 foreign adoption agencies enlisted with CARA for processing applications of the prospective foreign adoptive parents for adoption of Indian children. In addition, 46 Government Departments from

24 countries are also involved in the process.

- iv. **Adoption Coordinating Agencies (ACAs):** At present, there are 18 ACAs recognized by CARA for promoting in-country adoptions, maintaining a state level list of children available for adoption and prospective parents willing to adopt, carrying out publicity & awareness on adoption, and issuing clearances for inter-country adoptions.

Data on Adoption

12.9 Number of children placed in adoption through Recognized Indian Placement Agencies / Sishu Grehs during the last five years are as follows:

Year (Jan. to Dec.)	In-country Adoption			Inter-country adoption by NRIs/ PIOs/Foreigners No. of NOCs given for	Total (4+5)
1	2	3	4	5	6
	RIPAs	Shishu Grehs	Total (2+3)		
2004	1707	587	2294	1021	3315
2005	1541	743	2284	867	3151
2006	1536	873	2409	852	3261
2007	1510	984	2494	770	3264
2008	1419	*750	2169	821	2990

* Data likely to increase as information from many agencies is still awaited. The above data do not include in-country adoption figure of other licensed adoption agencies recognized by State Governments.

2008-09 (as on 31.03.2009)

Recognitions of New Indian Adoption Placement Agencies (RIPAs) : 07

Enlistment of new Foreign Adoption Agencies (EFAAa) : 04

Publicity & Awareness

12.10 Some of the major initiatives taken in the year 2008-09 include the following: -

Advertisements have been released on the following:



Smt. Renuka Chowdhury Minister' of State (IC), MWCD in get-to-gether with children from various orphanages, the Chairperson, CARA is at her left.

1. Beware of illegal adoptions.
2. Advertisement on Adoption Coordinating Agencies.
3. Advertisement on registration of Children Homes and recognition of Special Adoption Agencies.
4. Advertisement for invitation of applications for recognition as Adoption Placement Agencies.
5. Advertisement of list of Placement Agencies and Shishu Grehs in leading newspapers

12.11 CARA participated in Vatsalya Mela organized by the Ministry of Women & Child Development in Pragati Maidan during 14-27 November 2008.

Audio-visual media

Audio – Video spots for DD-News & AIR have been produced by DAVP for CARA.

Publications

1. Adoption under Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act 2000 amended in 2006
2. Adoption- A life long Bond.

Training / Development Activities

12.12 CARA has initiated Orientation Programmes under “National Initiative for Child Adoption”. The Initiative has already completed 7 phases since 2000-2001. The training/orientation programmes are being organized for various target groups, such as, Placement

Agencies, ACAs, Scrutiny Agencies, Sishu Grehs, Judicial Officers, Members of CWC, Medical Professionals and concerned State Government officials and other stakeholders. During the year 2008-09 10 State Orientation/sensitization programmes and one National level programme, 4 zonal programmes on online database with the help of NIC and one North East regional Programme have been completed.

12.13 Various initiatives taken by CARA

- Revision of the Existing Adoption Guidelines
- Revision of Recruitment Rules of CARA
- Microfilming of old NOC files (1995 to 2007)
- Recognition to new Adoption Placement Agencies
- Induction programme for social workers of new recognized agencies
- Central Adoption Resource Information and Guidance System (CARINGS)

Sishu Greh scheme

12.14 The “Scheme of Assistance to Homes for Children (Sishu Greh) to Promote In-country Adoption” has been in operation since 1992-93 with the following objectives:

- I. to regulate adoption within the country to ensure minimum standards in care of children;
- II. to provide support for institutional care within the country for care and protection of infants and children up to 0-6 years of age who are either abandoned or orphaned/ destitute and their rehabilitation through in-country adoption; and
- III. to promote in-country adoption.

12.15 The Scheme was revised in 1997-98 with a view to rationalize its funding / financial pattern. It was further revised w.e.f. 1st April,2001 with the objective of bringing State Govt.-run-institutions within its ambit so that all institutionalized children who are legally free for adoption can find families within the country.

12.16 The status of grant-in-aid, during the last 5 years, is as follows:

Financial Year	Budget Estimate (Rs.in Crores)	Revised Estimate (Rs.in Crores)	Actual Expenditure (Rs.in Crores)
2004-2005	2.65	-	2.23 (39 NGOs, 3 State Govts., 53 units)
2005-2006	5.00	2.00 (+0.27 lacs from NE budget)	2.24 (37 NGOs, 2 State Govts., 49 units)
2006-07	2.5	3.00 (Including NE)	2.59 (34 NGOs & 5 State Govts.& 61 units, 10 children per unit)
2007-08	3.00	3.00 (Including NE)	2.45(32 NGOs and 4 State Govts-total 59 units)
2008-2009	*3.00	2.80 (Including NE)	1.88(26 NGOs, 4 State Govts. And 46 Units) as on 31/03/09

- Inclusive of Rs. 30 lakhs for NE region.

12.17 States having Shishu Greh Projects: Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tripura and West Bengal.

Grant in Aid to Adoption Coordinating Agencies:

12.18 Financial support is being given to the Adoption Coordinating Agencies (earlier called Voluntary Coordinating Agencies) under the General Grant-in-aid Scheme of the Ministry for the promotion of in-country adoption. The status of the grant over the years is as follows:

Financial Year	Budget Estimate (Rs. in Lakhs)	Revised Estimate (Rs. in Lakhs)	Actual Expenditure (Rs. in Lakhs)
2004-2005	40.00	40.00	22.03 (09 VCAs)
2005-2006	40.00	40.00	43.28 (13 VCAs)
2006-2007	45.00	45.00	33.81(12 ACAs)
2007-2008	50.00	50.00	16.98(9 ACAs)
2008-2009	50.00	50.00	40.41(15 ACAs) as on 31/03/09