

Commission for Women (NCW) has made 11, 6 and 17 recommendations during the year 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively which relate to Central Government, in their Annual Reports.

As per the Section 14 of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990, the Central Government is required to cause the Annual Report together with a memorandum of action taken on the recommendations contained therein, in so far as they relate to the Central Government and the reasons for the non-acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendations and the audit report to be laid as soon as may be after the reports are received, before each House of Parliament. The said provisions of the Section 14 of the National Commission for Women Act 1990 are followed while laying the annual report alongwith the memorandum of action taken on the recommendations contained in the Annual Reports of the NCW. The Annual Reports together with a memorandum of action taken on the recommendations thereon for 2008-09 and 2009-10 have been laid in Parliament.

India's position in the Global Gender Gap

1374. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the reference made about India's position in the Global Gender Gap prepared by the World Economic Forum for the year 2011;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that India holds 131st position out of the 135 countries considered for Economic Participation and Opportunity between men and women; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Global Gender Gap Report-2011, prepared by the World Economic Forum, ranks India at 131st position among 135 countries, for Economic Participation and Opportunity.

(c) Government of India has taken several measures comprising policy initiatives and schematic interventions to secure gender equality in all aspects of social, economic and political life. There are various programmes such as Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women, Hostel for working women

with day care centres for children, Swadhar Greh, Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG)-SABLA, Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana, The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and National Rural Livelihood Mission, for economic and social empowerment of women. The Ministry of Women and Child Development launched the National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW) in March, 2010 for coordinated assessment of current Government interventions and aligning future programmes.

To bring women in the mainstream of political leadership at the grass root level, Government has reserved 33% of the seats in Panchayati Raj Institutions for women.

Prevention of begging amongst children

1375. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether instances of missing children are on the rise;
- (b) if so, State-wise details in this regard;
- (c) whether increased number of young children are forced to beg; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to enact and implement the relevant laws on prevention of begging amongst the children by the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) As per the information received from National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the reported instances of missing children have reduced from 77,133 in 2010 to 59,688 in 2011. State/UT-wise numbers of missing children in the years 2010 and 2011, as reported by State Crime Records Bureaux are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) As per the information furnished by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, no authentic data is available on the prevalence and presence of beggars, including child beggars, across the country. The Government, in the Ministry of Social Justice & empowerment has requested all State Governments and UT Administrations to effectively implement their existing laws or enact a new law in case such law is not in existence. As per the information available, 20 States and 2 Union Territories have anti-beggary laws.