

2008-09 preceded by rapid expansion in the years 2005-06–2008-09, so as to cover all habitations, across the country including all Districts in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The scheme is self selecting and open to all without any discrimination.

In order to address various programmatic, management and institutional gaps and to meet administrative and operational challenges, Government approved the strengthening and restructuring of ICDS Scheme in September, 2012 alongwith its continued implementation during Twelfth Five Year Plan. Restructured and strengthened ICDS has been rolled out during the year 2012-13 to 2014-15 in a phased manner across the country including all Districts in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Fine for harassment of women at workplace

2558. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to levy certain fine on the employers for harassment of women at workplace, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is proposed to be done at the direction of Apex Court, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) details of other measures that are proposed to be brought in to control the above menace and provide relief to the working women in the country?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) to (c) Supreme Court of India laid down formal guidelines for dealing with sexual harassment at the workplace in the case of *Vishakha Vs. State of Rajasthan*. The guidelines clearly state that all workplaces should constitute a Complaint Committee to deal with complaints of sexual harassment. Taking forward the Supreme Court guidelines, “Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013” was enacted which came into force with effect from 9th December 2013.

The Act casts a responsibility on every employer to create an environment which is free from sexual harassment. Employers are required to organize workshops and awareness programmes at regular intervals for sensitizing the employees about the provision of this legislation and display notices regarding the constitution of Internal Committee, penal consequences of sexual harassment etc. An employer will be liable to a fine of ₹ 50,000/- in case of violation of his duties under the Act and in case of subsequent violations, the amount of fine will be double together with penalty in the form of cancelation of his licence, withdrawal or non-renewal of the registration required for carrying out his activity.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development had issued advisories to States/UTs Government on 23rd December, 2013 to ensure effective implementation of the Act. The Ministries/Departments in Government of India have also been advised to ensure the compliance of the Act.

Rewards for balanced sex ratio

2559. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has announced Rupees one crore award for any innovative village attaining a balanced sex ratio, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has selected about 100 districts across the country for save daughter, educate daughter programme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) No, Sir. However, to address the issue of declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR), in age group of 0-6 years, Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) programme has been launched. The Scheme is intended to improve Child Sex Ratio across the country with the focussed intervention & Multi-Sectoral Action in 100 gender critical districts.

(b) The criteria/norms for selection/identification of 100 districts under the Beti Bachao Beti Padao programme are as under:—

- (i) 87 Districts have been selected from 23 States/UTs having Child Sex Ratio below the National average of 918.
- (ii) 8 Districts have been selected from 8 States/UTs having Child Sex Ratio above National average of 918 but showing declining trend.
- (iii) 5 Districts have been selected from 5 States/UTs having Child Sex Ratio above National average of 918 and showing improving trend so that other parts of country can be learn from them.

Honorarium of anganwadi workers

†2560. SHRI SANJAY DATTATRAYA KAKADE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the honorarium of the Anganwadi Workers in the country differs from State to State;