

Scheme is the flagship programme of the Government for holistic development of children below 6 years of age and pregnant women and lactating mothers. The Scheme provides a package of six services *viz.* (i) Supplementary nutrition (ii) Pre-school non-formal education (iii) Nutrition and health Education (iv) Immunization (v) Health check-up and (vi) Referral services.

Funds are released to States/UTs for providing SNP to the beneficiaries in the cost sharing ratio of 50:50. Further devolution of funds at the District level is done by the respective States, information on which is not maintained at the Central level. The details of funds released and utilized (including State share) under SNP for the State of Rajasthan during the last four years is given below:

(₹ in lakhs)

2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14	
Funds released	Expenditure Reported	Funds released	Expenditure Reported	Funds released	Expenditure Reported	Funds released	Expenditure Reported
20449.06	45138.71	26747.43	50048.53	22656.26	56630.74	24075.05	53197.71

(b) and (c) The District-wise and gender-wise information on number of malnourished children is not maintained at Central level. The number of malnourished children identified under the ICDS Scheme during each of the last four years and at present (as on 31.12.2014) in Rajasthan is given below:

As on 31st March of the year	Number of malnourished children
2011	1690523
2012	1534108
2013	1375504
2014	1264274
2015 (As on 1.1.2015)	1181386

Safeguard for rights of women

479. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether women of the country continue to be the most vulnerable sections of the society, they face discrimination of all kinds, face domestic violence and abusive situation in spite of Indian women gaining new heights in every walk of life;

(b) if so, details of steps taken to safeguard various rights of women in social, political and economic sphere; and

(c) whether Government has approved a bill giving woman share in her husband's property and if so, details thereof and whether the said Act has come into force and if not, by which date the said Act will be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) and (b) Women of the country continue to be the most vulnerable sections of the society due to unequal economic, social and political status of women which is an outcome of patriarchal and the deeply entrenched socio-cultural stereotypes and symbolization of women as bearers of the "family or community honor" etc. Ending gender based inequities, discrimination and violence faced by girls and women in the country is of utmost priority for the Government. The Government of India has already enacted a number of legislations to address gender based discrimination. These include the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005; Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961; Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986; the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 (PCMA), Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 and 73rd — 74th Amendment of the Constitution mandating 33% reservation for women in the local governance. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandates the provision of free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of 6-14 years. Further, to address the issue of declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR), the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) programme has been initiated with the objectives to empowering the girl child and enabling her education through a mass campaign and focussed intervention in 100 critical districts with low CSR.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is administering various schemes such as Swadhar and Short Stay Homes, Working Women Hostels, Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP), Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW), Rajiv Gandhi National Creche for Children of Working Mothers for welfare and empowerment of women.

(c) Department of Legislative, Ministry of Law & Justice has informed that no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.