

hostels/ for hiring premises for working women hostels.

Plans to construct Aanganwadi centres

1428. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has plans to construct Aanganwadi centres with the help of MGNREGA workers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of guidelines framed for implementation of the plan;
- (c) the locations identified for the purpose in the first phase; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for execution of the plan in a time-bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) and (b) Under the restructured Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, a provision for construction of 2 lakh Aanganwadi Centre (AWC) buildings @ ₹ 4.50 lakh per unit has been made during the XII Five Year Plan. As per the guidelines, the AWC building should be child friendly with all relevant infrastructure, sitting room for children/women, kitchen, store, child friendly toilets, space for playing of children. The total area of the building should be at least 600 sq. ft.

Separately, 2 lakh AWC buildings are planned to be constructed in 2,534 most backward Blocks of 8 World Bank assisted ICDS Systems Strengthening & Nutrition Improvement Program (ISSNIP) States [Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh] besides Assam, Odisha & Telangana in convergence with Ministry of Rural Development under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) @ 50,000 AWC buildings per year during the next four years. Construction of AWC buildings has been included as an approved activity under the MGNREG Act. 'Guidelines for construction of Aanganwadi Centres' under MGNREGS have been issued jointly by the Ministries of Women and Child Development and Rural Development, on 13th August, 2015.

Under MGNREGS, expenditure up to ₹ 5 lakh per AWC building for construction will be allowed. Expenditure beyond ₹ 5 lakh per AWC including finishing, flooring, painting, plumbing, electrification, wood work, etc. will be met from the ICDS funds.

- (c) and (d) Under systematic convergence of ICDS Scheme with MGNREGS 28619

sites have been identified till 20.11.2015 in IPPE Blocks / High Burden Districts of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh in first phase.

Empowerment of women

1429. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any survey has been conducted regarding empowerment of women as an effective and active economic agent;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its findings thereof;
- (c) whether the participation of women in the country's workforce is very less *vis-à-vis* their population and it is declining at the same time; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government for economic and social upliftment of women and to provide equal opportunity at par with men in entrepreneurship?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) and (b) Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner and Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation are involved in collection and dissemination of data covering wide range of issues that affect women's empowerment. The report titled "Women and Men in India – 2015" by Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation, Government of India highlights the status of women covering health, education, work and decision making along with social obstacles in women's empowerment.

(c) According to the National Sample Survey Report (2011-12), the workforce participation rates of male is 54.4% and female is 21.9%. As per the India Country Report, 2015 by Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation on the Millennium Development Goals, the percentage share of females in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector during 2011-12 increased to 19.3% which is higher than 18.6% reported during 2009-10 by National Sample Survey Organisation.

(d) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is administering following schemes for gender equality/socio-economic development/empowerment of women:

- (i) Swadhar and Short Stay Homes to provide relief and rehabilitation to destitute women and women in distress.