

In order to move towards a gender just society that treats women equally, the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Resource Development, have envisaged Gender Champions as responsible leaders who will facilitate an enabling environment within their schools/colleges/academic institutions where girls are treated with dignity and respect. Gender Champions aim to make young boys and girls gender sensitive and create positive social norms which value the rights of women and girls. UGC has already notified the guidelines prepared by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and has issued notifications to colleges and universities to appoint Champions. As per report of the UGC, 150 Universities and 230 colleges have initiated implementation of the Scheme.

The Gender Budgeting Scheme was also launched by the Ministry in the year 2008 for conducting trainings/workshops, capacity building measures, research surveys, etc. Under the Scheme *inter alia*, the Ministry undertakes many programmes as well as provides financial support to Central/ State Government agencies in order to strengthen the process of gender budgeting. The training programmes are focused on increasing awareness about the need and importance of Gender Responsive Budgeting. Gender Budgeting undertakes Training programmes on GB with the collaboration of WCD Department of State Governments, National Level Training Institutions, Administrative Training Institutes and State Institute of Rural Developments.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is also extensively tackling gender issue with innovative media campaigns and programmes through print, electronic and social media. Under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative, the Ministry has undertaken numerous media campaigns (print, electronic and radio) to increase the awareness regarding girl child. It endeavours to change mindsets towards girls through impactful films and TVCs on various issues like gender awareness, sex selection, equal opportunities etc. In synchronisation with International Women's Day, the Ministry undertook a dedicated campaign (#WeAreEqual) with the objective to raise the consciousness of society towards women so that she can be valued, respected and recognised as equal.

Diversion of funds under BBBP scheme

2229. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) in its recent audits has found diversion of funds released under Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Scheme by State Governments;

(b) if so, the details of diverted funds identified by CAG in its audits, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has taken any action to recover funds diverted by the State Governments; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) to (d) No such information is available in the Ministry.

Audit of reports on child sex ratio

2230. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any audit of reports submitted by State Governments on sex ratio at birth under the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Scheme in other States in general and particularly in Haryana;

(b) if so, whether Haryana has inflated data to show positive improvement in child sex ratio;

(c) the details of quarterly and annual reports submitted by Haryana, district-wise and the actual status of child sex ratio at birth assessed by the auditing team; and

(d) the response of the State to such reporting and the action proposed or being planned in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) to (d) Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme addresses the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of disempowerment of women over a life-cycle continuum. It is a tri-Ministerial initiative of Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health and Family Welfare and Human Resource Development. The Scheme is at a nascent stage of implementation and it's too early to assess its impact at this stage. The CSR is measured on decadal basis. Government of India has not taken up any audit of reports on sex ratio at birth in the States/UTs.