

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS****Scheme for leadership development of minority women**

\*227. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched any scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme and its training module along with details of enrolment of organisations/institutions for conducting training programmes for minority women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Minority Affairs implements a scheme namely "Nai Roshni" for Leadership Development of Minority Women with an aim to empower and instill confidence in minority women by providing knowledge, tool and techniques for interacting with Government system, banks and intermediaries at all levels. The implementation of the Scheme started in 2012-13. It is implemented through Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) all over the country. From 2015-16, the proposals are received online on Online application Management System (OAMS) Portal to improve transparency. Under the scheme, one week training programme is provided to the women by selected Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) followed by their hand holding for a period of one year. The training is provided on various training modules covering issues relating to women viz. Leadership of women through participation in decision making, Educational Programme for women, Health and Hygiene, Legal rights of women, Financial Literacy, Digital Literacy, Swachh Bharat, Life Skills and Advocacy for Social and Behavioural Change. Since the inception of Scheme, 2.97 lakh women received training and benefited under the scheme in 27 states all over the country at the cost of ₹ 65.58 crore.

**Special hospitals for the physically challenged**

\*228. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether Government has any plan to start special hospitals for physically challenged people, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): Health being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to provide adequate healthcare facilities to all the people of the State including persons with disability.

As far as the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is concerned, there are two institutes viz. (i) All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH), Mysore and

(ii) All India Institute of Physical Medicines and Rehabilitation (AIIPMR), Mumbai, which render, *inter alia*, clinical services on issues related to communication disorders and the various categories of physical impairments respectively.

A National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness (NPPCD) is being implemented in certain identified districts of the States/UTs. Under this programme, assistance is provided for procuring medical equipments for ear care services at district hospitals, CHCs and PHCs and supporting manpower at district hospitals. Ear care services to patients with ear diseases in State/UTs are provided free of cost under this programme. Further, under the National Programme for control of Blindness and Visual Impairment (NPCB and VI), grant is provided for strengthening and upgradation of Eye Departments at Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology and Government Medical Colleges in States/UTs for purchase of ophthalmic equipments.

Besides, under National Health Mission (NHM), support is extended to States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare system for provision of accessible, affordable and quality health care to all the citizens based on proposals submitted by the States/UTs in their Programme Implementation Plans under which assistance is provided for infrastructure strengthening, capacity building, human resource, medical equipments, etc. Approvals are given in accordance with the Gap Analysis, population norms and case load in the facilities of the State as decided in the National Programme Coordination Committee (NPCC) meetings, within the resource envelope available for particular State/UT.

As far as Central Government Hospitals/Institutes such as AIIMS, New Delhi, Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College and Associated Hospitals are concerned, treatment is provided to all patients including persons with Disabilities as per the available infrastructure.

Further, there are seven National Institutes under Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disability working in the field of disability with the objectives for providing, *inter alia*, rehabilitation services.

There is no proposal to start a special hospital for physically challenged people, at present.

#### **Borrowing of money by Indian para swimmer**

\*229. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Indian para swimmer, Ms. Kanchanmala Pande, was forced to borrow money in Germany to compete at the World Series and if so, the details thereof?