

per the guidelines of Ministry of Finance (DEA) an Empowered Committee (EC) of Officers was constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, WCD for appraising and approving various schemes/projects proposed by the Ministries/Departments to be funded from the Nirbhaya Fund. Under Nirbhaya fund, 16 proposals amounting to ₹2049.12 crores have been appraised and recommended by the Empowered Committee up to June 2017. Nirbhaya Fund is regularly monitored by the Government. The Empowered Committee of Officers under Nirbhaya Fund meets at regular intervals to review the implementation of schemes/projects already appraised by it and to suggest the implementing agencies for timely completion of the projects.

(d) The Ministry receives various proposals under Nirbhaya Fund from Central Ministries and State Governments to cater to women's safety and security. Subsequently, EC meetings are conducted and these proposals are considered. Once these proposals are recommended by the EC, funds are released to the implementing agencies by the Central Ministries as applicable. The Ministries and State Governments have been requested on 10th April, 2017 and reminded to send innovative proposals that can enhance the security and safety of women.

Online sexual abuse of children

627. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that fast pace of change in information and communication technology is also inducing/facilitating online sexual abuse and exploitation of children; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to curb this menace and to protect the children from online sexual abuse and exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) and (b) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) informed that it has initiated a number of major actions such as:—

- (i) Information Technology Act (IT Act) 2000 with its last amendment in 2008, provides a comprehensive framework for Cyber Crimes and Punishment including for online obscenity, sexual contents and child pornography.
- (ii) Government periodically blocks the websites based on the "Worst of" list provided by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which acts as a National Nodal Agency of INTERPOL in India.

- (iii) MeitY has issued an order in April, 2017 for blocking of Child Pornography URLs/ Websites based on the list maintained by Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), UK.

Priority area of National Plan of Action for Children

628. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has estimated the financial resources required for each priority area of National Plan of Action for Children (NPAC), 2016 and if so, the details of cost sharing ratio between the Central and State Governments;
- (b) whether Government has developed systems for implementation, monitoring and reviewing of NPAC; and
- (c) if so, the details of progress made in areas such as constitution of national and State level coordination and action groups, development of data collection and analysis mechanism, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) The National Plan of Action for Children, 2016 largely draws upon the existing programmes and schemes of various Ministries/Departments. It provides a framework for convergence and co-ordination between Ministries/Departments and States/UTs Governments to address multiple vulnerabilities of children. Hence, no separate financial resources are required for its implementation.

(b) It is the endeavour of the Government to optimize existing framework of service delivery and converge ongoing schemes and programmes of the Government to achieve intended benefits for children.

(c) These are regular practices adopted in the Ministry in order to execute ongoing programmes, schemes and policies.

Anaemia in children and women

629. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the national average, in terms of percentage prevalence of underweight and anaemia among children and women in the country;