

Empowered Committee on Utilisation of Nirbhaya Fund

2065. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that 16 proposals recommended by Empowered Committee on Utilisation of Nirbhaya Fund are operationalized till date;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the present status of implementation of proposals; and

(c) the number of One Stop Centres functioning in the country and the assistance provided in these centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Government of India has set up a dedicated fund called Nirbhaya Fund in 2013, for implementation of initiatives aimed at enhancing the safety and security for women in the country. As per the guidelines of Nirbhaya Fund, an Empowered Committee (EC) of Officers was constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, WCD for appraising and recommending various schemes/projects proposed by the Ministries/Departments to be funded from the Nirbhaya Fund.

So far, 22 proposals on women's safety and security from Central Ministries and State Governments have been appraised and recommended under Nirbhaya Fund which are at different stages of Implementation. The Empowered Committee from time to time reviews proposals/projects proposed by different Ministries/Departments/States/UTs.

(c) The Ministry has implemented scheme for setting up One Stop Centres (OSCs) under Nirbhaya Fund since 1st April, 2015 to support to women affected by violence, in private and public spaces, within the family, community and at the workplace. The scheme aims to facilitate access to an integrated range of services including medical aid, police assistance, legal aid/case management, psycho-social counselling and temporary support services to women affected by violence. Presently, 170 OSCs are functional across the country.

Therapeutic food for severe acute malnutrition

2066. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the Central Government has given clearance to the State Governments for providing Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) to children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM);

(b) the number of children in the country suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM); and

(c) the evidence that Government has found in the RUTF due to which the nutrition policy of Government stands to be changed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Guidelines for the community based management of children with Severe Acute Malnutrition are under active consideration by the Government, which will be finalized by the National Technical Board on Nutrition under the Chairmanship of Member, NITI Aayog.

As per the National Family Health Survey-4 (2015-16), 7.5% children under 5 years of age have severe acute malnutrition in the country.

Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF)

2067. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is in support of the use of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the decision of introduction of RUTF has been left to States, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any studies or pilot tests in this regard, if so, the results thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether RUTF is used in other countries, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what alternate mechanisms have been put in place to ensure that affordable nutritious food is accessible to malnourished children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (e) The Guidelines for the community based management of children with Severe Acute Malnutrition are under active consideration by the Government, which will be finalized by the National Technical Board on Nutrition under the Chairmanship of Member, NITI Aayog.

Status of women in education and health

2068. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any mechanism is in place to assess the status of women in economic participation, educational attainment and health; and