

Development of the States during his visits to the States. Recently, a national conference was organised on 13th and 14th November, 2019 with State Secretaries of Women and Child Development for in-depth review of POSHAN Abhiyaan and other Schemes. Series of Video Conferences were also organized in order to accelerate the progress of POSHAN Abhiyaan. Letters are also sent regularly to Chief Secretaries and State Secretaries of Women and Child Development regarding monitoring and effective implementation of POSHAN Abhiyaan.

### Anganwadi Centres in Tamil Nadu

2872. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that out of sanctioned 54,439 Anganwadi centres in the State of Tamil Nadu, 7232 Anganwadi centres are running from rented premises;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has mooted any idea/proposal to include construction of Anganwadi centres in the ambit of MNREGA scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Out of 54,439 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) sanctioned to the State of Tamil Nadu, 7,337 AWCs are running in rented premises. The details of Angawadi Centres (AWCs) running in rented premises in the State of Tamil Nadu are as under:

AWWs/AWHs House		Others		Total
Kuchcha	Pucca	Kuchcha	Pucca	
76	106	2,619	4,536	7,337

(c) to (e) Under the revised scope of Anganwadi Services implemented from 01.12.2017, the Central assistance for construction of new Anganwadi Centre building in rural areas is available in convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural

Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). The unit cost of construction of one Anganwadi Centre Building is ₹7 lakh. Out of which, ₹5 lakh is provided under MGNREGS. Remaining ₹2 lakh are shared equally by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the State Government.

### **Welfare of sex workers in the country**

2873. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has any estimates as to the number of women working as sex workers across the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken/proposes to take any steps to address the issue of violence and harassment perpetrated against sex workers and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry proposes to introduce any new schemes for the welfare of sex workers and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) No such data is available with the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

(b) The Indian Penal Code, 1860 and other laws which address the issues of violence and harassment committed against women are also equally applicable to sex workers.

(c) The Government is implementing 'Ujjawala' - a comprehensive scheme for prevention of trafficking and rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation since 4th December, 2007. The scheme is envisaged for women and children who are vulnerable to trafficking and those who are victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. Sex workers who are voluntarily in the trade and wish to be rehabilitated, can also avail of rehabilitation services provided under the Ujjawala Scheme.

### **MSK scheme in Gujarat and Jharkhand**

2874. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: