

1	2	3
25.	Uttarakhand	3
26.	West Bengal	29
TOTAL		452

### **Impact of Rashtriya Mahila Kosh scheme**

1268. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has studied the impact of the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh Scheme in promoting socio-economic development of women;

(b) whether the Ministry has studied the limitations of the system and steps taken to improve the credit delivery mechanism of the scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Yes, Sir. An evaluation study on the socio-economic impact of RMK loan on improvement in the living condition of poor women beneficiaries was conducted by Indian Society for Agribusiness professionals, (ISAP) New Delhi in the year 2012 on the behest of RMK.

(b) No formal study has been conducted with regard to the limitations of the system.

(c) Steps taken to improve loaning in the last 2 years are as under:

1. The Loan Guidelines of RMK were revised in August 2017.
2. Release of loan installments to IMOs through Public Financial Management System(PFMS).
3. E-loan software developed to enable IMOs/ NGOs to submit loan application online.

### **Stunting among children**

1269. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the rate of stunting among children in the country; and
- (b) what steps have been taken by Government to reduce the rate of stunting?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) As per the report of NFHS-4 conducted in 2015-16, 38.4% children under 5 years of age are stunted indicating a reduction and information from the previous NFHS - 3 conducted in 2005-06, which reported 48% children under 5 years of age as stunted and hence an improvement from the previous status. As per the Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey (CNNS) conducted by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the rate of stunting among children has further reduced to 34.7%.

(b) The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is implementing several schemes like Anganwadi Services, Scheme for Adolescent Girls and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojna (PMMVY) under the Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme as direct targeted interventions to address the problem of malnutrition including stunting in the country.

Government has set up POSHAN Abhiyaan on 18.12.2017 for a three year time frame commencing from 2017-18. The goals of POSHAN Abhiyaan are to achieve improvement in nutritional status of Children from 0-6 years, Adolescent Girls, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers in a time bound manner during the three years with fixed targets as under:

Sl. No.	Objective	Target
1.	Prevent and reduce Stunting in children (0- 6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
2.	Prevent and reduce under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
3.	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among young Children(6-59 months)	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
4.	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among Women and Adolescent Girls in the age group of 15-49 years.	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
5.	Reduce Low Birth Weight (LBW).	By 6% @ 2% p.a.

The Abhiyaan aims to reduce malnutrition in the country in a phased manner, through a life cycle approach, by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach. The Abhiyaan

has mechanisms for timely service delivery and a robust monitoring as well as intervention infrastructure. It targets to bring down stunting of the children in the age group of 0-6 years from 38.4% to 25% by the year 2022. The major activities undertaken under this Abhiyaan are ensuring convergence with various other programmes; Information Technology enabled Common Application Software for strengthening service delivery and interventions; Community Mobilization and Awareness Advocacy leading to Jan Andolan- to educate the people on nutritional aspects; Capacity Building of Frontline Functionaries, incentivizing States/ UTs for achieving goals etc.

#### **Dowry practices in the society**

†1270. SHRI R.K. SINHA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the issues on which Government is working to prevent increasing dowry practice in the society?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): As per the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 giving, taking or demanding dowry is an offence. As per Indian Penal Code, 1860, dowry death is an offence under section 304B and harassment for dowry is covered under section 498A. In addition, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 also include unlawful demand for dowry within domestic violence.

All these Acts are being implemented through State Governments. Government of India conducts awareness generation programmes and publicity campaigns to prevent dowry practice in India.

#### **Spending on child education**

1271. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is spending on child education as per the directives suggested by Kothari Commission; and

(b) if so, what is the Total percentage, if not, the reasons therefor and what are the steps proposed to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.