

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 3191
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.03.2022

OBJECTIVE AND SALIENT FEATURES OF MAHILA POLICE VOLUNTEERS

3191. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- (a) the objective and salient features of Mahila Police Volunteers (MPVs) scheme being implemented by Government;
- (b) the number of States in which the scheme is in operation at present and the steps taken by Government to implement the Scheme in all States;
- (c) the details of powers assigned to MPVs to check crimes against women along with registration process and success rate after inclusion of such volunteers since implementation of scheme; and
- (d) the measures taken by Government to create awareness and sensitisation among young women and adolescents about MPVs in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (d) : The Scheme of Mahila Police Volunteers (MPV) envisaged these Volunteers as empowered, responsible and socially aware women for fostering leadership in local settings to facilitate police outreach on gender concerns. The broad mandate of MPVs is to report incidences of violence against women such as domestic violence, child marriage, dowry harassment and violence faced by women in public spaces. Under the scheme, approvals were given to the proposals received from 13 States/ UTs. However, this scheme could be made functional only in 7 States / UTs with reported number of over 9,900 MPVs.

A third party Evaluation Study of Mahila Police Volunteers (MPV) Scheme was conducted by NITI Aayog. The said study found inadequacies in institutional structure and implementation of the scheme. Taking into account the findings of the third party evaluation, the past experiences and in consultation with States/ Stakeholders, it has been decided to discontinue the Mahila Police Volunteers Scheme during the 15th Finance Commission Cycle, while suitably incorporating appropriate provisions under other components of "Mission Shakti", an umbrella scheme for safety and empowerment of women.
