

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 311**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.03.2022

**Women's participation in fight against climate change**

311. SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the initiatives taken/being taken by Government to involve women's participation keeping in view the fact that climate change affects the women in the rural areas more than their urban counterparts;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that climate change induced floods and droughts make it difficult for agriculture-dependent rural women to run their families; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)**

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

\*\*\*

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (C) OF RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 311 DUE FOR REPLY ON 31.03.2022 RAISED BY SHRI  
S. SELVAGANABATHY ON “WOMEN’S PARTICIPATION IN FIGHT AGAINST  
CLIMATE CHANGE”**

(a)to (c)Over the years,India is implementing a number of schemes and programmes for social wellbeing and infrastructure development, mainstreaming climate change in the country.Some of the initiatives systematically integrating gender mainstreaming and empowering womenin rural areas include, inter alia, (i) Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (ii) Jal Jeevan Mission (iii) Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (iv) Samagra Shikhsha Abhiyan (v) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (vi) Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (vii) Swachh Bharat Mission (viii) POSHAN Abhiyaan (ix) National Health Mission (x) Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (xi) Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (xii) Mahila Shakti Kendra (xiii) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (xiv) National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013 and (xv) Antodaya Anna Yojana. These schemes are supporting access to drinking water, clean energy, elementary education, employment and livelihood, housing, sanitation, nutrition, health and financial inclusion to the rural women.In addition, one-third reservations for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) support women’s participation in local governance in India

As per the sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), impacts of climate change on food systems affect whole community, but the vulnerable groups including elderly, women, children, indigenous people, small scale producers and fishing communities and people in high-risk regions are impacted more. Further, United Nations Women Watch in its fact sheet mentions that women and men in rural areas in developing countries are especially vulnerable when they are highly dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood. Those charged with the responsibility to secure water, food and fuel for cooking and heating face the greatest challenges.

\*\*\*\*\*