

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2072
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2023

MAHILA POLICE VOLUNTEERS (MPVs)

2072. SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI:

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

- (a) the number of States where presently Mahila Police Volunteers (MPVs) scheme is operational;
- (b) whether Government plans to increase the application of the scheme across all states of the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs implemented the Mahila Police Volunteers (MPVs) scheme in the States/ UTs, to act as a bridge between police and community and helped women in distress. Based on the proposals received from States / UTs, the scheme was initially approved for 13 States / UTs, out of which it was operationalized by 7 States / UTs, namely, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Mizoram and Tripura.

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, Mahila Police Volunteers Scheme has been discontinued w.e.f 01.04.2022.

However, this important service has been continued by suitably incorporating appropriate provisions under other components of 'Mission Shakti', an umbrella scheme for safety and empowerment of women. The Mission Shakti guidelines is effective from 01.04.2022 for addressing women's needs on life cycle continuum basis. Mission Shakti has two sub-schemes - 'Sambal' and 'Samarthya'. While "Sambal" sub-scheme is for safety and security of women, "Samarthya" sub-scheme aims at empowerment of women. The 'Sambal' sub-scheme consists of component of One Stop Centre (OSC) and the 'Samarthya' sub-scheme consists of component of Shakti Sadan (SS). The Government has been implementing the scheme of One Stop Centre (OSC) since 1st April, 2015 to provide a range of integrated services under one roof to women affected by violence and in distress. The One Stop Centre (OSC) is envisaged to provide support and assistance to women affected by violence and in distress, both in private and public spaces under one roof. OSCs provide an integrated range of services including medical aid, legal aid and advice, temporary shelter (for a maximum period of 5 days), police assistance, psycho-social counselling to needy women.
