



Introduction

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Introduction

1.1 As per 2001 Census of India, Women and Children (aged 0-18 years) constitute 71.14 % of India's population. Realizing the supreme importance of development of Women and Children in the country's progress, our forefathers have formulated the country's Constitution with many provisions especially for the cause and the best interest of children and women. Many laws have also been enacted for the protection of women and children. Ever since independence, many programmes are being implemented aiming at their welfare and development in all respects. The **Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), Government of India, which was carved out of Ministry of Human**

Resource Development as a separate Ministry on 30th January 2006, is the nodal ministry for all matters pertaining to development of women and children in the country.

Vision

1.2 The vision of Ministry of Women & Child Development is "Ensuring overall survival, development, protection and participation of women and children of the country". The Ministry has evolved policies, plans of action, legislations, programmes and schemes for advancement of women and children and has been implementing these with the support of State Governments, other



Smt. Pratibha Patil, Hon'ble President of India inaugurating Sixth South Asian Regional Ministerial Conference commemorating 'Beijing Declaration' on 19th January, 2008.

Government agencies and voluntary sector for achieving its mandate.

Subjects allocated to the Ministry of Women and Child Development

1.3 The list of subjects being dealt with in the Ministry of Women and Child Development is at **Annexure-I**. Vide Govt. notification dated 16.2.2006, all subjects relating to child welfare / protection like the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2000, Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA), Adoption which were earlier under M/o Social Justice and Empowerment have been transferred to the newly created Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Organisation

1.4 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is headed by Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Minister of State (Independent Charge). Smt. Deepa Jain Singh functioned as Secretary of the Ministry till

17.10.2007 and with effect from 18.10.2007 Sh. Anil Kumar took over the charge. He is assisted by three Joint Secretaries, an Economic Adviser and a Statistical Adviser who head the five Bureaus of the Ministry namely Child Development (also Food and Nutrition Board); Child Welfare and Protection; Women Welfare & Development; Prevention of Trafficking, Girl Child & Gender Budgeting; and Plan, Research, Monitoring and Statistics. Besides, Joint Secretary and Financial Adviser of the Ministry looks after the financial matters of the Ministry.

1.5 The Ministry has 4 autonomous organizations viz. **National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)**, **Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)**, **Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB)** and **Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA)** working under its aegis. NIPCCD, RMK and CARA are societies registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. CSWB is a charitable company registered under section 25 of the Indian Companies Act, 1956. These



Honourable Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh with other dignitaries at the inauguration of 'Second East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting on 6th December, 2007'

organizations are fully funded by the Government of India and they assist the Ministry in its functions including implementation of programmes/schemes. The **National Commission for Women** was constituted as a **national apex statutory body** in 1992 for protecting and safeguarding the rights of women. As envisaged in the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act 2005, notified in the Gazette of India on 20th January, 2006 as Act No.4 of 2006, the Government has set up a **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** with effect from 5th March, 2007. The organization chart of the Ministry is at **Annexure-II**.

Development of Children

- The ongoing programme of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) is intended for the early childhood care for holistic development of children below 6 years of age and pregnant and lactating mothers, through a package of six services viz. (i) supplementary nutrition (ii) immunization, (iii) health check-up, (iv) referral services, (v) pre-school and non-formal education and (vi) nutrition and health education.

The services of immunization, health check up & referral services are provided through the public health infrastructure i.e. Health Sub Centre, Primary Health Centre & Community Health Centre. The services are provided concurrently so that synergetic and holistic development of children takes place. ICDS Scheme covers rural/ tribal areas and slum population in urban areas. ICDS is an ongoing Centrally sponsored scheme implemented through the State Governments with 100 percent financial assistance from the Central Government for all inputs other than supplementary nutrition for which Central assistance to States is given by the Government of India to the extent of 50% of

the actual expenditure incurred by States or 50% of the cost norms, whichever is less.

The ICDS Scheme was launched in 1975-97 in 33 blocks on an experimental basis and was gradually expanded to 5652 projects (4533 rural, 759 tribal and 360 urban project) till the end of Ninth Plan. The implementation of the Scheme was continued in Tenth Plan within the existing 5652 project only, with no expansion activity, in view of resource constraints.

The ICDS scheme has since been expanded twice in the years 2005-06 and 2006-07. In the first phase of expansion, 466 additional projects and 1.88 lakh Anganwadi Centres were sanctioned. Under the 2nd phase of expansion, 166 additional projects, 1.07 lakh AWCs and 25943 Mini-AWCs were sanctioned across the country. With this, the total number of ICDS projects has gone up from 5652 to 6284, AWCs from 7.58 lakh to 10.53 lakh and Mini-AWCs from 10886 to 36829. As on 30.9.2007 the number of operational ICDS projects is 5959. Similarly, the number of operational AWCs on the same date is 9.37 lakh.

- The **Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY)** and **Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG)** are schemes which target under nourished adolescent girls and are implemented through the infrastructure of ICDS.
- The National Nutrition Policy adopted in 1993 identified a series of actions in different sectors. In pursuance of that, the **Food and Nutrition Board** of Ministry of Women and Child Development has been undertaking a number of initiatives for improving the nutritional status of the people in the country.

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development has undertaken a number of initiatives to ensure the survival and welfare of girl child. The Ministry has suggested measures for effective implementation and efficient monitoring of the Pre –Conception and Pre – Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994.
- The Ministry has launched in the 11th Plan, a new Pilot Scheme ‘**Conditional Cash Transfer for Girl Child with Insurance Cover (CCT)**’ wherein cash transfers will be made to the family of the girl child (preferably the mother) on fulfilling certain specific conditionalities and also insurance coverage.
- Also the Ministry has formulated in the 11th Plan a new centrally sponsored scheme–‘**Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)**’ with a view to create an environment for comprehensive development of children in the country with the objective to contribute to the improvement in the well being of children in difficult circumstances, as well as to the reduction of vulnerabilities to situations and actions that lead to abuse, neglect, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children.

Other important schemes for welfare, development and protection of children are

- **Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme For the Children of Working Mothers**
- **Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in need of care and protection**
- **Integrated Scheme for Street Children**
- **Scheme for Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social maladjustment**
- **Sishu Greh scheme** to promote in country adoption of children.

1.6 During the year, a **draft Bill for Offences Against Children (Prevention)** addressing all issues related to child abuse has been referred to Law Ministry for their vetting. The proposal will be placed before the Cabinet shortly. Keeping in view the amendments made in the provisions of the **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000** with effect from 23.08.2006, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has notified the **Model Rules, 2007** in the Gazette of India [Extraordinary] on 26th October, 2007 in order to ensure uniformity and to facilitate the task of State Governments.

Prevention of Trafficking in Women and Children

1.7 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is undertaking a number of initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking. Important among these are,

1. **The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 is being amended** to provide for stringent punishment to the traffickers and other perpetrators of crime, deletion of Sections of the Act that re-victimizes the victim and providing an institutional mechanism.
2. A new Central Scheme “**Ujjawala**”—a Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking, Rescue, Rehabilitation, Re-Integration and Repatriation of Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation” was launched on 4th December, 2007.
3. The problem of cross border trafficking especially of young children and women trafficked from Bangladesh and Nepal into India for the purpose of prostitution has been growing in recent years. In this connection, a **draft Roadmap and Joint Plan of Action has been developed in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External**

Affairs and Bangladesh Counterparts with technical support from UNICEF.

4. The **First Regional Task Force meeting of the SAARC countries** was held on 26th July 2007 at New Delhi to discuss operationalisation of the SAARC Convention on preventing and combating trafficking in women and children for prostitution. In the meeting, the SAARC Countries agreed to disseminate best practices, develop of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for implementing the provisions of the Convention and to train and build capacities of various stakeholders in SAARC Region.
5. UNODC in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Home Affairs organized the **“South Asia Regional Conference on Human Trafficking”** as a part of the **Global Initiatives to Fight Human Trafficking (UN-GIFT)**.
6. The **Central Advisory Committee (CAC) to combat Child Prostitution** headed

by Secretary (MWCD) had developed **guidelines** on six crucial issues – Inter State Rescue Protocol; Health issues of trafficked victims; Prevention of trafficking of women and children; Rehabilitating victims of trafficking; Legal issues; MIS and data base systems.

Development of Women

1.8 The Ministry of Women & Child Development has been implementing various programmes and schemes aimed at improving the socio economic empowerment of women through initiatives such as mobilization of women into Self Help Groups (SHGs), provision of training in various livelihood skills, upgradation of skills to enable them to take up income generation activities through self employment or wage employment. The important programmes being implemented for this are,

- **Swayamsidha** under which women’s SHGs have been formed with the objective of all-round development of women, especially



2nd East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting held on 6-7th December, 2007

socially and economically, by ensuring their direct access to and control over productive resources of the community through a sustained process of mobilization and convergence of all ongoing sectoral programmes and these SHGs are involved in various developmental activities.

- **STEP**, under which updated skills and new knowledge are provided to poor and asset-less women in the traditional sectors such as Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Fisheries, Handlooms, Handicrafts, Khadi and Village Industries, Sericulture Social Forestry and Wasteland Development for enhancing their productivity and income generation capacity.
- The **Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)** of Ministry of Women and Child Development has in place a unique credit delivery model 'RMK-NGO-SHG-Beneficiaries' and has flexible credit norms, hassle free loans, no collateral and reasonable rate of interest to help women start livelihood activities.
- To facilitate the employment of women away from their homes / towns, schemes providing support services for women such as **Working Women Hostels** with day-care centres and independent Crèche Centres are implemented. Crèche facilities for children of working mothers are provided under the aegis of **Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme**.
- To provide relief, protection and rehabilitation of women in distress schemes like **Swadhar Shelter Homes, Short Stay Homes and Women Helplines** are being implemented. Further, **Mahila Mandals, Awareness Generation Programmes, Condensed Course of Education and Family Counselling Centre** scheme are some of the other important activities aiming at overall development of women.

- In the 11th Plan, a new central scheme titled '**Relief and Rehabilitation of Victims of Rape**', is proposed to be formulated and implemented for rape victims.

Gender Justice and Legal Safeguards

1.9 The National Commission for Women (NCW) is functioning with the mandate of safeguarding the interests of women covering all aspects of women's rights.

1.10 The Government adopted the **National Policy for the Empowerment of Women** on 20th March, 2001. The main objective of this Policy is to bring about the advancement, development and empowerment of women and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and to ensure their active participation in all spheres of public life and activities. To ensure that the policy prescriptions get implemented, the Ministry is in the process of drafting a Plan of Action (POA).

Gender Budgeting and Gender Disaggregated Database

1.11 Gender Budgeting and Gender disaggregated database have been emphasized as the major monitoring tools to examine that the benefits of policies and programmes are reaching those for whom these are intended. Gender budgeting is perceived as a powerful tool not only for tracking allocation of resources for women but also covers implementation issues and outcomes. Ministry of Women and Child Development has been identified as the Nodal Ministry for Gender Budgeting and the Ministry is pursuing vigorously with the Central Ministries/ Departments and State Governments to implement the techniques of gender budgeting.

1.12 The Ministry has also initiated steps to compile and prepare Gender Development Index and Gender Empowerment Measure for

India and States under the GOI- UNDP Project of ‘Promoting Gender Equality’. The task of preparation of a gender database for SAARC member countries is being undertaken by SAARC-UNIFEM. In India, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal agency for the database.

Promoting Gender Equality – GOI – UNDP project

1.13 The Ministry signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with UNDP in July 2004 for implementation of a project titled “Promoting Gender Equality”. Activities completed so far are as below:

- The process of Engendering of the Eleventh Five Year Plan formulation was taken up by Government of India through National Alliance of Women’s Organisation (NAWO) under this Project in collaboration with UNIFEM. The objective of the process (that included five regional consultations and a national consultation) was to reflect on the impact of macro processes and policies on women at the grassroots.
- Training workshops on gender budgeting were conducted under this project for both Central and State government officials.
- Three studies on elderly, disabled and home based workers have been completed to identify options for reducing their vulnerability.
- Conference on time use survey to collect data for systematically quantifying the economic contribution of women in the national economy and to study gender discrimination in the household activities was held.

Following activities are under progress:

- Films on women leaders - Enabling and constraining factors are identified through

audio-visual documentation of women leaders in informal positions, especially in poorer and the North Eastern States.

- Preparation of a Women Development Report.
- Study on Gender and Trade in collaboration with UNCTAD.
- Preparation of gender related development index (GDI) and gender empowerment measure (GEM)

Convention on Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

1.14 India signed the Convention on Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) on 30th July 1980 and ratified it on 9th July 1993 with one reservation and two declaratory statements. The convention obligates the State parties to undertake appropriate legislative and other measures to eliminate discrimination against women and for guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedom on the basis of equality with men. As the implementation of the provisions of CEDAW requires a greater dialogue and convergence among the various ministries responsible for implementing different legal provisions, policies and programmes that work towards women’s equality and elimination of discrimination against women, an Inter-Ministerial Committee has been constituted, under the chairpersonship of the Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development. India is the second country in the world to have such a Committee for implementation of CEDAW.

Beijing Platform for Action

1.15 The Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995 was a landmark event that set the pace for women’s empowerment when a Declaration and Platform for Action (BFPA)

were adopted. India adopted both without any reservations and identified 12 critical areas of concerns which include Poverty, Education & Training, Health, Violence Against Women, Women in Armed Conflict, Economy, Power & Decision Making, Institutional Mechanism for advancement of Women, Media, Environment, Human Rights of women and girl child. The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) reviews the progress made by the member countries in these areas. The 52nd Session of CSW was held from 25th February – 7th March 2008. Priority theme was financing for gender equality and empowerment of women.

Grant-in-aid for Research, Publications and Monitoring

1.16 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the scheme of grant-in-aid for research, publication and monitoring since 1986-87 with the objective to promote research studies for testing the feasibility and efficacy of existing programmes and services on emerging issues in the field of women and child development. Under the scheme, the Ministry also supports workshops/ seminars on the important issues on women and children.

Media activities

1.17 The Media Unit of the Ministry is actively engaged in generating awareness in country about issues concerning the women and children by giving wide publicity to the policies, programmes and developmental activities formulated and implemented by the Ministry.

Evaluation of Schemes/ Programmes of the Ministry

1.18 The Ministry of Women and Child Development conducts evaluation study of its programmes / schemes to assess the impact of

the programme as well as the shortcomings for better planning and implementation in future. A statement showing the details of evaluation studies of important programmes of the Ministry in brief is given below:

- **Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS)** - The Scheme was evaluated in 1992 by National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD); by National Council of Applied Economic Research in 1998 and the latest by NIPCCD in 2005-06. The evaluation report “Three Decades of ICDS – An Appraisal” 2005-06 has since been published.
- **Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY)** – Evaluation by National Institute of Medical Statistics (NIMS), ICMR, New Delhi will be completed soon.
- **Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG)**– The Nutrition Foundation of India has completed the evaluation of the scheme in December 2006.
- **Swayamsidha**: The scheme was evaluated by an external agency i.e. ‘Indian Institute of Public Opinion Private Limited’, New Delhi in 2005.
- **Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP)** – The mechanism of concurrent evaluation is built into the scheme. An independent agency i.e. Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST), New Delhi has evaluated the scheme and submitted its report in June 2007.
- **Swadhar Short stay Homes and Women Helpline** – The evaluation was conducted by Centre For Market Research & Social Development, New Delhi and report submitted in February 2008.
- **Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme For the Children of Working Mothers-**

There is inbuilt mechanism for monitoring of crèches through independent monitoring agencies, identified in consultation with the concerned State Government.

- **Integrated Programme for Street Children** – Evaluation of the scheme was conducted by NIPCCD and report submitted in 2007.
- **Scheme of Assistance to home for children (Shishu Greh)** to promote in country adoption – Evaluation of the scheme was done by NIPCCD and report submitted in 2007.
- **Pilot Project to Combat Trafficking of Women and Children** - Evaluation study was done by NIPCCD and report submitted in July, 2007.
- **Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in need of care and protection** – Evaluation of the scheme has been assigned to NIPCCD in 2007.
- **Working Women Hostel** – An evaluation study on pilot basis was conducted by NIPCCD in 2005 and report has since been submitted.

Important events

World Press Freedom Day 2007

1.19 Ministry of Women and Child Development organized a Workshop with media personalities on 3rd May 2007 on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day. The theme of the Workshop was “Gender Equality in Indian Media”.

International Day of Family

1.20 Smt. Renuka Chaudhury, Hon. Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Women and Child Development, visited old age homes in New Delhi on 15th May 2007 to highlight the need to protect the family unit which is the very basis of a healthy and strong society.

Regional Task Force Meeting on SAARC Convention on preventing and combating trafficking of women and children for prostitution

1.21 The first meeting of the Regional Task Force to operationalise the SAARC Convention was held on 26th July 2007 in New Delhi. Delegates from India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives and Pakistan participated in the meeting.

Conference on ‘Micro Finance and Women Economic Empowerment in SAARC Region’

1.22 A Conference on ‘Micro Finance and Women Economic Empowerment in SAARC Region’ was held on 27th July 2007 at New Delhi.

World Breastfeeding Week

1.23 The World breast feeding week was observed from 1st to 7th August 2007 with the Global theme of ‘Breastfeeding: The 1st hour; early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding for first six months can save more than one million babies’.

Women’s Meet in Srinagar

1.24 Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson, UPA addressed women’s meet in Srinagar on 10th September, 2007. The theme of the meet was ‘Women of Kashmir walking hand –in –hand on the path of progress.’

National Nutrition Week

1.25 National Nutrition week was observed from 1st to 7th September 2007 on the theme ‘Nutrition Promotion for a Stronger Nation’.

World Food Day

1.26 World Food Day was observed on 16th October, 2007 with the theme ‘the Right to Life’.

Global Iodine Deficiency Disorder Prevention Day

1.27 The Global Iodine Deficiency Disorder Prevention Day was observed on 21st October 2007.

Vatsalya Mela

1.28 In connection with this year's Children's Day celebrations, the Ministry had set up a Pavilion called, "Vatsalaya" in the Trade Fair during 14-27th November 2007 including stalls of Swayamshidha Women Self Help Groups from States/ UTs, CSWB, RMK, and FNB. During the function organized on 14th November, 2007, the National Child Awards for Exceptional Achievement -2006, National Awards for Child Welfare- 2006 and Rajiv Gandhi Manav Seva Award - 2007 were presented. Special cultural programmes and Children's film shows were also held as a part of the celebrations.

South Asia Conference to Fight Human Trafficking

1.29 The South Asia Conference to Fight Human Trafficking was held in New Delhi on 10-11, October, 2007, with joint collaboration of Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Home Affairs, UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime). Eight Countries from South Asia participated in the Conference.

National Conference on Child Rights

1.30 A National Conference on Child Rights was held on Universal Child Rights Day -20th November 2007 in New Delhi.

Round Table Meeting on SAARC Gender Data base

1.31 A round table meeting on SAARC gender data base for Country India was held on 21st November-07 in New Delhi with the objective to familiarize the stakeholders with the concept of SAARC gender data base and to discuss the standardized indicators. The meeting was attended by technical experts from SAARC –UNIFEM, members of the National Committee on SAARC gender database, representatives from important line Ministries and Organisations.

Second East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting

1.32 The Ministry organized the Second East Asia Ministerial Meeting in New Delhi on 6th and 7th December 2007. Honourabl Prime Minister



2nd East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting held on 6-7th December, 2007

of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh inaugurated the meeting. The thematic issues taken up for discussion were Home Based Workers, Violence against Women and Women in Decision Making. The meeting ended with the adoption of a joint ministerial communiqué.

6th South Asia Ministerial Conference commemorating “Beijing Declaration”

1.33 The Ministry organised the 6th South Asia Ministerial Conference commemorating “Beijing Declaration” held in New Delhi during 17th to 19th January 2008. The Honorable President of India inaugurated the conference.

UN-GIFT Conference

1.34 The Hon’ble Minister of State for Women and Child Development (Independent Charge) led an Inter-Ministerial Delegation to Vienna from 13-15 February, 2008 for UN-GIFT conference on Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking.

Felicitation of recipients of the National Child Bravery Awards 2007

1.35 The Hon’ble Minister of State for Women and Child Development (Independent Charge) felicitated the recipients of the National Bravery Awards, 2007 in a function held on 25.1.2008 in New Delhi.



Flag hoisting by Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson, UPA on the occasion of International Women’s Day



Fight Against Female Foeticide Taking oath on the eve of International Women's Day-March 5, 2008

Meeting with Principals of schools

1.36 Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Hon. Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Women and Child Development interacted with the Principals of schools on important issues like child abuse in a meeting held at New Delhi on 25th January, 2008.

Conference of State Ministers and Secretaries of Women and Child Development

1.37 A Conference of State Ministers and Secretaries in charge of Women and Child Development and other senior officers of the States and Union Territories was held on 28-29th January, 2008 in New Delhi. The Conference deliberated upon the status and efficacy of the programmes, schemes and legislations of the Ministry of Women and Child Development in their States / UTs. The subject of the implementation status of ICDS in the various

States /UTs and proposed restructuring of the ICDS was taken up on the 28th of January, 2008 in detail and the constraints, problems faced by the States were discussed as also their suggestions and observations. On the second day of the Conference, Child Protection issues and Programmes related to Women's social and economic empowerment were discussed. Special focus was laid on the need to provide adequate mechanisms for implementation of the important legislations such as Prevention of Domestic Violence Act, 2005. The need for greater sensitization on part of the States / UTs on issues relating to female foeticide and declining sex ratio, molestation and violence against women was also stressed.

International Women's Day

1.38 The Ministry of Women and Child Development organized a number of functions this year also in connection with the International Women's Day celebrations falling on 8th March, 2008.

1.39 Celebrated on 8 March, International Women's Day is the global day connecting all women around the world and inspiring them to achieve their full potential. The United Nation's theme for 2008 is: Investing in Women and Girls.

1.40 The theme for the Ministry of Women and Child Development is

“Survival to Success
Celebrate her life”

1.41 A week-long celebration has been organised beginning 3rd March 2008 with press conference as curtain raiser followed by the following activities:

4th March 2008: Conference on Prevention of Trafficking at 10 AM at Vigyan Bhavan

5th March 2008: Workshop on Prevention of Female Foeticide at 10 AM at YWCA

8th March 2008: Presentation of Stree Shakti Puraskar at Siri Fort Auditorium

8-9th March 2008: Health Exhibition at Siri Fort

8-10th March 2008: Nutrition Exhibition at India Gate Lawns

9th March 2008: Screening of films Chameli and Dor at Siri Fort

Information Technology

1.42 National Informatics Centre (NIC) is managing the computer centre of Ministry of Women & Child Development and provides software, hardware and consultancy support to Ministry in developing computer based management information system. A team of officers of NIC works in close coordination with the officials of Ministry to maintain existing software and develop new programmes. Some of the programmes introduced in 2007-08 by the Ministry with the help of NIC are :-

- File Status information system
- NGO Grant Monitoring System
- Budget Monitoring System
- MIS for Online Proposal of Loan Monitoring System for RMK
- Software for Monitoring adoption of children for Central Adoption Resource agency
- GIS Mapping of Schemes of the Ministry
- Portal of National Resource Centre for Women
- Intranet based integrated office automation
- MIS for monitoring ICDS Programme
- Online transmission of Parliament Questions to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariat
- Maintenance of MWCD website and its updation, various software like store inventory, payroll and hardware maintenance package.
- Technical Consultancy and guidance to various organizations under the control of Ministry like National Commission for Women, NIPCCD, RMK and CSWB.

Reservation for Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes

1.43 Reservation Policy of the Government of India in the services is being followed in the Ministry and the organizations under its control. As a cadre authority, the Ministry has duly reported the reserved vacancies to Department of Personnel & Training. The attached office i.e, Food and Nutrition Board and all the autonomous bodies under Ministry of Women and Child Development were duly requested to fill up the vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes and other backward

Classes by making special efforts; i.e., if a suitable officer is not available in the first attempt of recruitment, second attempt is also to be made within the same recruitment year or as early as possible.

Public and Staff Grievances

1.44 The Public Grievances received in the Ministry are attended on priority. Director (Admn) has been nominated as the Public Grievances officer of Ministry of Women and Child Development while Junior Technical Assistant, Food and Nutrition Board has been made Public Grievances Officer in Food and Nutrition Board and the same have been duly forwarded to the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances for circulation. The Ministry nominated officers/ staff for training for redressal of public grievances organized by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances from time to time.

Right to Information Act

1.45 In pursuance of the provisions contained in sub section (1) of section 5 of the Right to information Act, 2005, the Ministry has designated subject wise Public Information Officers at the level of Deputy Secretary/ Director and Assistant Public Information Officers at the level of Under Secretary for receipt and disposal of applications received under the Act. In addition, officers at the level of Joint Secretary have been designated as appellate authorities in terms of sub section (1) of section 19 of the right to Information Act, 2005 for considering appeals against the decisions of the PIOs. The details of Appellate Authority and PIOs / APIOs have been posted on the official web site of the Ministry www.wcd.nic.in

1.46 The official web site of the ministry is also

being updated from time to time to provide information on the schemes/ programs and Acts being administered by the ministry for information to the public.

Parliamentary Standing Committee

1.47 A meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development for Demand for Grants (2007-08) of Ministry of Women and Child Development was held on 29.3.2007 under the Chairmanship of Shri Janardan Dwivedi in Parliament House Annexe. The Committee examined the officers of the Ministry on the Demands for Grants, 2007-08. The composition of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on HRD (2007-08) is at **Annexure- III**.

1.48 A Parliamentary Standing Committee on Empowerment of Women is also functioning with the main tasks to (i) consider the reports submitted by NCW and to report the measures to be taken (ii) examine the measures taken by the Union Government to secure women equality, status and dignity in all matters (iii) examine the measures taken by the Union Government for comprehensive education and adequate representation of women in Legislative bodies/services and other fields (iv) report on the working of the welfare programmes for the women (v) report on the action taken by the Union Government and Administrations of the Union Territories on the measures proposed by the Committee; and (vi) examine such other matters as may deem fit to the Committee or are specifically referred to it by the Speaker of Lok Sabha or the Chairman, Rajya Sabha. The composition of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Women Empowerment (2007-08) is at **Annexure- IV**.

Use of Hindi in official work

1.49 Hindi Section has been mandated to implement the Official Language policy of

the Central Government in the Ministry. In pursuance of this policy, efforts were made during the period under report to maximize the use of Hindi in the Ministry. The officers and employees have acquired working knowledge of Hindi. Departmental entries in the service books were continued to be made in Hindi. Letters received in Hindi were replied to in Hindi. Article 3 (3) of the official Language Act 1963 is being complied with in the Ministry. Hindi fortnight was celebrated from 14th to 28th Sept. 2007. To review the progressive use of Hindi in the Ministry, meetings of the Departmental Official Language Implementation Committee were

held in the Ministry and remedial measures to overcome the shortcomings were suggested.

Annual Plan of Ministry of Women and Child Development

1.50 The revised (RE) Plan and Non – Plan outlays for 2007-08 are Rs.5793.00 crores and Rs. 60.00 crores, respectively.

1.51 Detailed progress made under specific interventions/measures undertaken by the Ministry for all-round development of women and children in the country may be seen in the ensuing chapters.



Programmes for Women

2

Programmes for Women

2.1 As per 2001 census, women constitute 48 % of the total population. Women as an important human resource were recognized by the Constitution of India which not only accorded equality to women but also empowered the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in their favour. Drawing strength from the Constitution, the Government of India has been engaged in committed and continuous endeavours towards ensuring allround well being, development and empowerment of women. One of the six basic principles of governance laid down in the National Common Minimum Programme is to empower women politically, educationally, economically and legally. The upgradation of Department of Women and Child Development to a Ministry under the independent charge of Minister of State for Women and Child Development with effect from 30.01.2006 is an important mile stone in that direction. In its nodal capacity, the Ministry has been striving for the holistic empowerment of women by reviewing the laws to remove gender bias, bringing new legal measures aiming at gender justice and implementing programmes to achieve the social and economic empowerment of women.

Planning Process and women empowerment

2.2 The planning process has evolved over the years from a purely 'welfare' oriented approach to the development approach and currently to their 'empowerment.' It was only from the Sixth Five year Plan onwards that women secured a

special niche and space in the national plans and planning process primarily with thrusts on health, education and employment. A paradigm shift occurred in the Eighth Plan where 'empowerment' of women was recognized and accepted as a distinct strategy. A further impetus for sectoral contribution to women's programmes was received with the introduction of the concept of Women's Component Plan in the Ninth Plan whereby identified ministries were required to indicate the flow of funds to the women's programmes and schemes. In the tenth Plan, for the first time, monitorable targets were set for a few key indicators of human development, which include reduction in gender gaps in literacy, wage rates and reduction in MMR. The Ninth Plan Document (1997- 2002) laid emphasis on the participation of people in the planning process, and the promotion of self-help groups. The approach was to access women living in poverty and to guide them to help themselves. The Tenth Five Year Plan called for the three pronged strategy of social empowerment, economic empowerment and providing gender justice to create an enabling environment of positive economic and social policies for women and eliminating all forms of discrimination against them and thus advance gender equality goals. During the 10th Plan also, emphasis continued on empowerment of women through SHG movement. The Eleventh Plan seeks to reduce disparities across regions and communities by ensuring access to basic physical infrastructure as well as health and educational services to all, recognize gender as a cross - cutting theme across all sectors

and commits to respect and promote the rights of the common person. The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Plan specifically states that ‘gender equity requires adequate provisions to be made in policies and schemes across Ministries and Departments. It also entails strict adherence to gender budgeting across the board’.

2.3 Keeping with its mandate, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has taken several initiatives during the past years for bringing about gender equality, empowerment and development of women. These initiatives are discussed below:

Swayamsidha

2.4 Swayamsidha is an integrated scheme for women’s empowerment through formation of women into Self-Help Groups (SHGs). The scheme was launched in February 2001 across the States and Union Territories of the country with

a total budget outlay of Rs. 116.30 crore. But subsequently discontinued from Goa, Daman & Diu, Dadar & Nagar Haveli and Chandigarh due to lack of interest among the UTs. The scheme is expected to culminate in March 2008. The long-term objective of the programme is holistic empowerment of women through a sustained process of mobilization and convergence of all the on-going sectoral programmes by improving access of women to micro credit, economic resources etc. The programme is being implemented in 650 blocks in the country including 238 Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY) blocks, covering 335 districts. Each block consists of 100 Self Help Groups. The programme is being implemented in many States through ICDS infrastructure; while in some States, the scheme is implemented through State Women’s Development Corporations. In addition to monitoring the scheme through normal means such as Quarterly Progress Report (QPR) and field visits, a system



Swayamsidha women’s SHG- Towards Economic Empowerment in Tamil Nadu



Soft Toy Training Unit in Himachal Pradesh under Swayamsidha Scheme

of Quarterly Review Meetings of State Nodal Officers has been put in place.

2.5 The most important component of the programme is the formation, implementation and monitoring of blocks specific composite project for 4-5 years incorporating the following four elements:-

- Group formation/mobilisation activities;
- Community oriented innovative interventions;
- Convergence with specific schemes of MWCD, namely STEP, SEP and AGP along with other schemes, if there is a felt need for the same; and
- Schemes of other Ministries, whether converged under Government of India's directions or State Government initiative.

Achievements under Swayamsidha:

- **69,690 SHGs have been formed against the target of 65,000 SHGs**

- **10.03 lakh women are covered under the scheme**
- 8198 clusters of SHGs have been formed
- 579 block level federations of SHGs have been formed
- Rs. 143.64 crores have been saved by SHGs under the scheme
- 63,714 SHGs (98%) have Bank Accounts
- Rs. 100.55 crores have been deposited by the SHGs in Banks
- 34,806 SHGs (54%) have availed Bank loan
- Rs. 154.34 crores loan has been taken from Banks by SHGs
- 51,208 SHGs (79%) involving over 5.98 lakhs women are engaged in Income Generation Activities (IGA)
- 45,060 SHGs (69%) are given Skill Development Trainings

- 41,365 SHGs (64%) are benefiting from convergence with other Government schemes
- Many States have created Community Assets and the process is going on. Till now, 4322 Community Assets have been created

2.6 Trainings on ten basic topics (Concept of Swayamsidha, SHG Concept, Savings and credit, Group Rules, Group Dynamics, Confidence building, Conflict resolution, Book Keeping and cash management, Opening bank account and Leadership development) have been imparted to SHGs.

Financial achievements under Swayamsidha

2.7 Against the BE of Rs.27.90 Crores for 2007-08 under Swayamsidha, an expenditure of Rs. 11.52 crores (as on 31.1.2008) has been incurred. State-wise funds released during 2006-07 and 2007-08 (as on 18.3.2008), number of districts covered, blocks allocated and SHGs formed under Swayamsidha are given in **Annexure-V** and **Annexure-VI** respectively.

Review Meetings for Nodal Officers of Swayamsidha

2.8 The Ministry has organized three exposure-cum-review meetings of Nodal Officers implementing Swayamsidha, the details of which are as given below:



Review-cum-Exposure Visit of Nodal Officers of Swayamsidha at Kovalam, Kerala (25-27th September 2007)

Exposure-cum-Review Meetings

Date	Venue	Participants
16 July 2007	Delhi	31
25-27 September 2007	Kovalam, Kerala	29
3-4 January 2008	Delhi	22

2.9 The review meeting and exposure meets served as a platform to discuss the achievements made in the previous quarter with focus on training, convergence, bank linkage, income generation/micro enterprise activities and community assets created under the project. Expenditure and utilization of funds, problems and issues relating to implementation etc. were also discussed. Technical guidance was also given to the States. The Nodal Officers were taken to field to study base practices adopted in the States during exposure visits.

Evaluation of the Scheme of Swayamsidha

2.10 The Scheme was evaluated by an external agency, IIPO, New Delhi in 2005. The major findings of the evaluation are as under:

Formation of Self Help Groups (SHGs):

2.11 Under Swayamsidha, group formation target was 65,000 SHGs for 650 blocks. So far, 67,971 SHGs have been formed. Most of the States achieved their targets and some States formed more SHGs than the target set for them. The analysis of data reveals that in most cases, the number of SHG members fall between 10-20 against the target of 15-20 members per SHG. The total number of SHG members is 9.89 lakhs against the target of 11.37 lakhs. Registers and cash boxes were provided to most of the groups as soon as these were formed. All groups have formulated their by-laws and followed them. Attendance is 100% in nearly all sample blocks except a few cases where revenue villages are scattered over several kilometers. The low rate of savings is usually in areas where group members are extremely poor and are not able to

save regularly. Otherwise savings and inter-lending is the backbone of these SHGs. Most of the groups received all basic training and are receiving training on income generation activities. Nearly all groups have their bank accounts. So far as the Community Asset Creation is concerned, in some States, it is completed or work is in advanced stage. In other States the SHGs have already planned the type of community assets to be created. Thus, Swayamsidha has benefited women in several ways by increasing income, awareness level, decision making process, participation in political and social processes, knowledge of legal rights, health issues etc.

Economic Empowerment:

2.12 Economic status of women has definitely improved after joining the SHGs. The Swayamsidha group members have been able to further strengthen their own economic activities as individuals and as groups by taking loans from their own kitty and from the banks and other credit institutions. This has generated enthusiasm and self confidence in women in the Swayamsidha SHGs who become role models for other women in the village to emulate. The result is that once one or two groups get formed, there is a chain reaction and other groups come up. These women handle their own money, keep their own accounts, maintain group registers and individual pass books as also are proud of their Group's account in the banks with photographs of their office bearers. The Scheme has helped in poverty alleviation and income increase has definitely taken place from moderate to high level among the SHG members. Lakhs of rupees have been pooled to start income generation activities that reflect the local needs. With a few exceptions, all SHG members are involved in individual or group income generating activities - some with loan from their groups and others with Bank loans. 50-60% of nutritious meals in ICDS centers are supplied by the SHG members. There are good number of success stories that speak of their economic empowerment and augmentation of family income.

Social Empowerment :

2.13 Awareness on various social issues has also been created among women. Under the convergence component of the scheme, they are now being made familiar with various developmental schemes of several Departments which benefit women. Women now always enjoy relatively more freedom and there are no restriction on their movement outside home for social or business purpose. Being part of the Swayamsidha group has given them enhanced status. After joining SHGs, the women members are increasingly participating in family decision making, demanding their rights from family , community and government. They have developed the ability to interact with others and have developed negotiation skills. In conclusion, women in Swayamsidha Blocks have strengthened their social standing in society. Awareness of social evils like alcoholism, dowry & female feticide has shown that sex ratio in Villages has improved. A strong bond has been established between group members. They have attachment for each other. Being members of the group, gives them a feeling of security.

Political Empowerment :

2.14 Politically women are active. Thus whoever gets time participates in Gram Sabha activities. The participation of women in local self-government has increased. The percentage of women's voting has gone up considerably. The members are now more sensitive about political issues and their impact on their lives. Participation of women at Panchayat levels has increased and some of them have been elected to the Panchayats and urban local bodes. Most of the members of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) are elected from the SHGs. Almost all the members participate in election / political process.

Bank Linkages:

2.15 The scheme helped to establish close linkage between SHGs and banks/credit societies. The

bank officials were sensitized about SHG concept. The Animators and Programme Implementing Agencies (PIAs) were quite helpful to SHGs in opening bank accounts and monetary transactions. Initially all the SHGs faced some problems with regard to opening bank accounts. With the intervention of District Collector and PIAs soon these were resolved. Banks that extended help and co-operation are Nationalised banks as well as private banks. Banks were made aware of the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for opening accounts of SHGs. Banks that participated in SHG stabilization activities are lead bank officers and rural bank officers. Women are involved in micro credit operations and are interacting with different financial institutions like the nationalized banks, private banks, cooperatives, rural banks etc. In most places, the banks are providing all the cooperation to SHGs in their activities. Some bank officials try to reach out to SHG women personally and have relaxed their timings so that the SHGs can operate their bank accounts comfortably. Some banks organized Loan Mela for SHG group members. The overall experience with the Credit institutions was found positive.

Legal Rights:

2.16 The SHG members have begun to know their legal rights through the awareness generation programmes organized under the scheme. All women members are now aware of their legal rights and laws forbidding child marriage, child labour, equal wages for equal work, among others. They have awareness on dowry laws; age of marriage, and state that they do not discriminate between sons and daughters. They are opposed to sex selective abortions but admit that this practice is going on and women actually do not have much control over it.

Health Issues:

2.18 Swayamsidha Awareness Camps and Basic Training programmes created awareness among

SHG members on issues such as Family planning, health and nutrition of pregnant women, child care, issues of adolescents, need for immunization of children, problems of HIV/AIDS, to name a few. They know the importance of a clean environment, keeping the house and surroundings neat and clean; importance of health care (family health, reproductive health) etc. Some groups participated in Pulse Polio, Immunization, and Awareness programmes.

Community Asset Creation:

2.19 The scheme of Swayamsidha has provision for creation of community assets as per felt needs of the women SHG members. The cost of community assets could be up to Rs. 10 lakhs per block out of which Rs. 6 lakhs would be GOI share and the remaining amount would be State share. The evaluation report indicates that in some States creation of community assets has been completed or in advanced stage. The other States have already planned the form of community asset to be created. The community assets are being created after consulting the SHGs and to meet their requirements. There is delay in the initiation of community assets in some States due to non availability of 40 % community share. The sources identified by the states for the 40% state share are State Rural Development Department, concerned Deputy Commissioners, Block Development Officers, MP/MLA Grants, other donors, etc. Only some states have been able to raise this share for Swayamsiddha Blocks.

Conclusion :

2.20 In conclusion, women in Swayamsidha Blocks have strengthened their social standing in society. Awareness of social evils like alcoholism, dowry & female feticide is visible. Economic status of women has definitely improved after joining the SHGs. Number of women members in Panchayat levels has increased and some of them have been elected to local bodies.

2.21 Women across the board have asked a pertinent question, “ Why did it take Sarkar to bring in this scheme 50 long years.” At places, they are willing to sustain the movement with or without support. Groups are fairly stable although at different stages of evolution. Swayamsidha is a movement and a dynamic process. This programme has unleashed woman power and one comes across some very vibrant, confident women who understand the concepts of savings and investment and the need to equip themselves with sound economic skills. On the technical front, more work is needed but the programme is moving towards the broad goals of social, economic and political empowerment of women. The scheme needs to run for another five years for stabilization, growth, sustainability and self reliance.

Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP)

2.22 This Programme launched in 1987, seeks to provide updated skills and new knowledge to poor and asset-less women in the traditional sectors such as Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Fisheries, Handlooms, Handicrafts, Khadi and Village Industries, Sericulture, Social Forestry and Wasteland Development for enhancing their productivity and income generation. This would enhance and broaden their employment opportunities, including self-employment and development of entrepreneurial skills. A comprehensive package of services, such as health care, elementary education, crèche facility, market linkages etc. are provided besides access to credit.

2.23 During the 9th Plan period about 255635 women beneficiaries were covered under 66 projects implemented in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh,

Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and West Bengal. During the 10th Plan period about 215651 women beneficiaries have so far been provided training under the Scheme. So far, women in the dairying sector have been receiving the maximum support, keeping in view the nature of demands.

2.24 In the year 2006-07, 13 new projects were sanctioned to benefit 31177 women and an amount of Rs.1597.63 lakh was released. During the current financial year 2007-08, 13 new projects have been sanctioned benefiting 34390 women and an amount of Rs.1474.00 lakh released as on 31.1.2008. State-wise funds released under the scheme during 2006-07 and 2007-08 (as on 11.1.2008) are given in **Annexure-VII** and funds released to organisations during 2007-08 are in **Annexure-XLIII**

Evaluation of the scheme of STEP

2.25 An independent agency i.e. Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST), New Delhi has evaluated the STEP programme to assess the sectoral impact of the programme under implementation and has submitted its final report which is under examination by the core group constituted in the Ministry for the purpose.

Hostels for Working Women

2.26 The scheme of assistance for construction or expansion of hostel buildings for working women with day care centre for children is in implementation since 1972-73. Under this Scheme financial assistance is provided to non-governmental organizations, cooperative bodies and other agencies engaged in the field of women's social welfare, women's education, etc., public sector undertakings, women's development corporations, local bodies, universities, State Governments etc., for construction of building for Working Women's Hostel. This scheme envisages provision of safe and affordable hostel accommodation to working women (single working women, women working

at places away from their home-towns, working but husband out of town, widows, divorcees, separated women etc.) and women being trained for employment and girl students. Trainees are permitted to stay for a period of one year and girl students for a period of five years, but with the conditions that first preference would be given to working women. It is also stipulated in the scheme that the category of women who are being trained for employment and girl students should not exceed 30% of the capacity of the hostel.

2.27 Though the scheme was initiated in 1972-73, so far (upto 2007) only 876 hostels have been sanctioned throughout the country. Since the demand for Working Women Hostels is on the increase due to increasing number of women in employment, a Committee was set up to revamp the scheme so as to make it more viable. The Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women also took up the scheme for examination. The scheme is being revamped taking into account the suggestions that have been made by both the Committees.

2.28 During 2006-07, it was decided to set up a 500 seat hostel at Jasola in Delhi for working women from the North Eastern States. Foundation stone for the hostel was laid by the Minister of State (IC), WCD on 7.3.2007. Two new hostels with a capacity to accommodate 208 women have been sanctioned in the year and so far Rs.1.32 crore has been released as on 31.1.2008. State-wise funds released during 2006-07 and 2007-08 and distribution of Working Women's Hostels are given in **Annexure-VIII and IX** respectively. Funds released to different organisations during 2007-08 (as on 24.1.2008) are in **Annexure-XLIII**

Swadhar-A Scheme for Women in Difficult Circumstances.

2.29 This scheme was launched by the Ministry during the year 2001-02 for the benefit of Women in difficult circumstances with the following objectives:



Swadhar Home- Inmates in a monthly group discussion in Bangalore

- To provide primary need of Shelter, food, clothing and care to the marginalized women/girls living in difficult circumstances who are without any social and economic support;
- To provide emotional support and counseling to such women;
- To rehabilitate them socially and economically through education, awareness, skill upgradation and personality development through behavioral training etc;
- To arrange for specific clinical, legal and other support for women/girls in need of those interventions by linking and networking with other organizations in both government and Non-Government Sectors on case to case basis;
- To provide Help-line (24 hour Telephone facility) or other facilities to such women in distress; and
- To provide such other services as will be required for support and rehabilitation of such women in distress.

Target Group/ Beneficiaries

- Widows deserted by their families and relatives and left uncared at religious places where they are victims of exploitation;
- Women prisoners released from jail and without family support;
- Women survivors of natural disaster, who have been rendered homeless and are without any social and economic support;
- Trafficked women/ girls rescued or runaway from brothels or other places or women/girl victims of sexual crimes, who are disowned by family or who do not want to go back to respective family for various reasons;
- Women victims of terrorist/ extremist violence who are without any family support and without any economic means for survival;

- Mentally challenged women (except for the Psychotic categories) who are without any support of family or relatives;
- Women with HIV/AIDS deserted by their family or women who have lost their husband due to HIV/AIDs and are without social and economic support;
- Similarly placed women in difficult circumstances.

Implementing Agencies

2.30 The implementing agencies can be the Social Welfare/Women and Child Welfare Department of State Governments, women's Development Corporation, Urban Local Bodies and reputed Public/ Private Trust or Voluntary Organizations, who are willing to take up the responsibility of rehabilitating such women. The organizations must have adequate experience/ expertise for taking up such work of rehabilitation.

Performance during 2007-2008

2.31 The budget allocated by Government of India for Swadhar Scheme for the year 2007-08 is Rs.15.00 crores. Out of this, Rs.8.59 crores has been sanctioned and 40 new Swadhar Shelter Homes have been sanctioned and funds have also been released for 153 ongoing cases(Swadhar Shelter Home and Helpline) for 2nd and subsequent instalment.

2.32 At present, a total of 208 Swadhar Shelter Homes and 210 Women Helplines are functional across the country and 8 Swadhar Shelter Homes have been closed by the organization (up to 12.2.2008). Statewise funds released during 2006-07 and 2007-08 (as on 27.2.2008) is given in **Annexure-X** and funds released to different organisations during 2007-08 (as on 12.2.2008) are given in **Annexure-XLIII**.

Evaluation of the Swadhar Scheme:

This Ministry intended to get evaluation of the two Schemes being run by the Ministry namely Swadhar Scheme, Short Stay Home Scheme and Women Helpline. The main objective of the evaluation study was to undertake a systematic

review of the performance of the Swadhar Scheme, Short Stay Home Scheme and Women Helpline and to suggest whether both the Schemes can be merged together. The Contract was executed by this Ministry with Centre for Market Research and Social Development, East of Kailash, New Delhi. The final report is awaited.

Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children for Commercial Sexual Exploitation

2.33 Trafficking in human beings is an organized crime violating all basic human rights. India has emerged as a source, transit and destination country. It is estimated that there are 3 million sex workers in India, of which 40 percent constitute children, as young as 10 years old. Most often these victims are trafficked through means like duping, luring, fake marriages, abducting, kidnapping and manipulating social and economic vulnerabilities and sold to brothels where they are continuously subjected to abuse, violence and exploitation by perpetrators of crime.

2.34 Article 23 of the Constitution of India prohibits trafficking in human beings and begar. The principal legislation “Immoral Traffic

(Prevention) Act, 1956” lays down provisions for providing stringent punishment to the perpetrators of crime. In addition, the Indian Penal Code also provides provisions for crimes related to trafficking. India is also signatory to various International and regional Conventions such as UN convention against Transnational Organized Crime with its protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons especially women and children, SAARC convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Women and Children in Prostitution, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and Convention on the Rights of the Child.

2.35 The growing incidence of trafficking in the country is a major concern to the Government of India and the Ministry of Women and Child Development has undertaken a number of initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking. These include: -

- The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 is being amended to provide for stringent punishment to the traffickers and other perpetrators of crime, deletion of Sections of the Act that re-victimizes the victim and providing an institutional mechanism. The proposed amendments to Immoral Traffic



Conference on Prevention of Trafficking being addressed by Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Minister of State(I/C), MWCD on the occasion of International Women's Day



Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MOS(I/C), MWCD addressing UN-GIFT International Conference on Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking held at Vienna from 13-15th February, 2008

Prevention Act, 1956 were submitted for Cabinet Approval. The Cabinet has recommended that a “Group of Ministers (GOM)” be constituted to go through the proposed amendments and give their recommendations. The Group of Ministers met on 23 November 2007 and subsequent meetings are to be convened for further deliberations.

- An Integrated National Plan of Action for preventing Trafficking in Human Beings, especially Women and Children, is being drafted by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Labour, National Commission for Human Rights and National Commission for Women. The Integrated National Plan of Action addresses trafficking for all purposes and including commercial sexual exploitation. For this purpose wide ranging Consultations with State Governments, NGOs and experts through Regional Consultations, one each in Guwahati, Hyderabad and Goa and a National Level Consultation in Delhi were
- held wherein the draft Plan of Action was deliberated and recommendations received. The draft Plan of Action is under finalization.
- Three pilot projects are being implemented viz i) to combat trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation under the sanction of tradition ii) Pilot project to combat trafficking of women and children for commercial, sexual exploitation in source areas and iii) pilot project to combat trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation in destination areas. In the year 2007-08, 34 projects were sanctioned benefiting 250 women and girls.
- Based on the favorable feedback on the implementation of the pilot projects, it was decided to formulate a comprehensive scheme to combat trafficking in the Eleventh plan. A new Central Scheme “Ujjawala”—a Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation and Re-Integration and Repatriation of Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation” was launched

on 4 December, 2007. An Outlay of Rs 10 crore has been approved for the Scheme in the year 2007-08.

The scheme comprises of five components: -

1. Prevention, which consists of formation of community vigilance groups/adolescent groups, awareness and sensitization of important functionaries like police, community leaders and preparation of IEC material, holding workshops, etc.
 2. Rescue, safe withdrawal of the victim from the place of exploitation.
 3. Rehabilitation, which includes providing safe shelter for victims with basic inputs of food, clothing, counseling medical care, legal aid, vocational training and income generation activities etc.
 4. Reintegration, which includes restoring the victim into the family/community (if she so desires) and the accompanying costs.
 5. Repatriation, to provide support to cross-border victims for their safe repatriation to their country of origin.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with National Institute of Public Co-operation and Child Development (NIPCCD) is organizing a series of workshops for NGOs on issues relating to trafficking of children for commercial sexual exploitation. The Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with NIPCCD organized training courses for International delegations such as Mauritius and SAARC countries delegations on various aspects of trafficking.
 - The Ministry in collaboration with Ministry of Home Affairs and UNODC is developing Training Manuals for Police and Prosecutors and also setting up Anti- Human Trafficking Units (AHTU) in select States like Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Goa.
 - The problem of cross border trafficking especially of young children and women trafficked from Bangladesh and Nepal into

India for the purposes of prostitution has been growing in recent years. At present there are no streamlined procedures, to enable safe and quick repatriation of the victims. In this connection a draft Roadmap and Joint Plan of Action has been developed in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs and Bangladesh Counterparts with technical support from UNICEF.

- The First Regional Task Force meeting of the SAARC countries was held on 26th July 2007 at Delhi to discuss operationalisation of the SAARC Convention on prevention of trafficking. In the meeting, the SAARC Countries agreed to disseminate best practices, develop of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for implementing the provisions of the Convention and to train and build capacities of various stakeholders in SAARC Region. India has offered to hold training programmes and develop SOPs.
- UNODC in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development and



Combating Trafficking- Central Advisory Committee setup to discuss related issues at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi (13th December 2007)

Ministry of Home Affairs organized the “South Asia Regional Conference on Human Trafficking” as a part of the Global Initiatives to Fight Human Trafficking (UN-GIFT). The Conference provided an effective platform to generate awareness on various issues relating to trafficking and

initiate a collaborative regional effort to tackle the problems.

- The Central Advisory Committee (CAC) to combat Child Prostitution headed by Secretary (MWCD) had requested focus groups to develop guidelines on six crucial issues – Inter State Rescue Protocol; Health issues of trafficked victims; Prevention of trafficking of women and children; Rehabilitating victims of trafficking; Legal issues; MIS and data base systems. All the above were discussed in the CAC meetings and adopted.

National Plan of Action for Implementing the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women

2.36 The Government adopted the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women on 20th March, 2001. The main objective of this Policy is to bring about the advancement, development and empowerment of women and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and to ensure their active participation in all spheres of public life and activities.

2.37 To ensure that the policy prescriptions get implemented, the Ministry is in the process of drafting a Plan of Action (POA). A core group has been set up to redraft the POA in the light of the observations made by the Cabinet Secretariat. Under the Policy's operational strategy, the Action Plan has to be drawn up with goals achievable by the year 2010. The POA will also identify commitment of resources and responsibilities for implementation and strengthen institutional mechanisms and structures for monitoring. The operational strategy also mentions the need to develop Gender Development Index as a method of gender auditing and stresses the importance of collecting gender-disaggregated data which will be useful for planning, implementation and monitoring.

Scheme for Relief and Rehabilitation of Victims of Rape

2.38 The Supreme Court, in a judgment dated 19.10.1994, directed the Government to evolve a scheme to mitigate the sufferings of victims of rape and to constitute Criminal Injuries Compensation Board to pay them compensation. A meeting of the Committee of Secretaries (COS) was held on 4.3.2005 to discuss the implementation of the Supreme Court judgement. In pursuance of the decision taken in the COS meeting, the National Commission for Women (NCW) has formulated a scheme titled 'Scheme for Relief and Rehabilitation of Victims of Rape, 2005' providing for constitution of (i) Criminal Injuries Relief and Rehabilitation Board at each and every district to award compensation to rape victims; and (ii) District Monitoring Committees to provide shelter, protection, legal and medical aid and other rehabilitative measures for the victims. The Scheme has been included in the Report of the Working Group on Empowerment of Women for the XIth Plan. An amount of Rs.1 crores in the year 2007-08 has been allocated for the new scheme.

Laws on Women

2.39 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has set up a Committee to review laws so as to remove gender disparities, if any, in them. The Committee reviews the progress of action taken by the concerned Ministries in this respect. Current status of these laws is given at **Annexure-XI** The Ministry is concerned with the legislative aspects of the following Acts:

The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986.

2.40 A proposal to amend the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 in order to widen its scope and to make its

implementation more effective was considered by the Cabinet which directed wider consultations to be held for the amendment of the Act. The National Commission for Women has been asked to take action in this respect.

The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.

2.41 The National Commission for Women has recommended amendments to the Act and amendment of section 304 B of Indian Penal Code in order to strengthen the anti-dowry laws. The recommendations are under examination in the Ministry.

The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987.

2.42 The amendments proposed to the Act have been dropped.

The National Commission for Women Act, 1990

2.43 Amendments to the Act have been recommended by the National Commission for Women in order to give more powers to the Commission. These are under examination in the Ministry.

The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

2.44 The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 was notified in the Gazette of India on 14-9-2005. The said Act is a comprehensive legislation to protect women from all forms of domestic violence. The Act also covers women who have been/are in a relationship with the abuser and are subject to violence of any kind - physical, sexual, mental, verbal or emotional. The Act has been brought into force with effect from 26-10-2006.

2.45 The Ministry has also notified the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Rules, 2006 laying down the rules for implementation of the Act. The copies of the Act and the Rules have

been circulated to all State Chief Secretaries with the request to appoint Protection Officers, register Service Providers and to give wide publicity to the Act for creating awareness of its provisions among the public.

Salient features of the Act:

- It covers those women who are or have been in a relationship with the abuser where both parties have lived together in a shared household and are related by consanguinity, marriage, a relationship in the nature of marriage, or adoption. In addition, relationships with family members living together as a joint family are also included. Even those women who are sisters, widows, mothers, single women, or living with the abuser are entitled to the protection under the proposed legislation. However, whereas the Act enables the wife or the female living in a relationship in the nature of marriage to file a complaint against any relative of the husband or the male partner, it does not enable any female relative of the husband or the male partner to file a complaint against the wife or the female partner.
- It defines “domestic violence” to include actual abuse or the threat of abuse that is physical, sexual, verbal, emotional or economic. Harassment by way of unlawful dowry demands to the woman or her relatives would also be covered under this definition.
- It confers on the aggrieved woman the right to reside in a shared household, whether or not she has any title or rights for the same. In fact, a respondent, not being a female, can be directed under the Act to remove himself from the shared household or to secure for the aggrieved woman the same level of alternate accommodation as enjoyed by her in the shared household or to pay rent for the same.
- The orders for reliefs the aggrieved woman is entitled to under the Act include protection

orders, residence orders, monetary relief, custody orders and compensation orders.

- It empowers the Magistrate to pass protection order in favour of the abused to prevent the abuser from aiding or committing an act of domestic violence or any other specified act, entering a workplace or any other place frequented by the abused, attempting to communicate with the abused, isolating any assets used by both the parties and causing violence to the abused, her relatives or others who provide her assistance against the domestic violence.
- It provides for appointment of Protection Officers and recognizes and involves non-governmental organisations as service providers for providing assistance to the abused with respect to her medical examination, obtaining legal aid, safe shelter etc.

2.46 On completion of one year in October, 2007 a national conference was organized in collaboration with the Lawyer's Collective to review the implementation of the Act. This is the first time that implementation of an Act has been reviewed on completion of an year and it was found that though setting up of necessary infrastructure to implement the Act as prescribed therein is lacking in many states, as many as 7913 cases have been registered under the Act in one year.

The Protection against Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Bill, 2005

2.47 A Bill seeking to confer upon women the right to protection against sexual harassment at workplace has been drafted in consultation with the National Commission for Women and prominent women organisations working in the area having requisite expertise. The proposed new legislation would cover women working

in organised, unorganised and informal sectors and would have clear provisions about the employers' obligations to prevent and redress sexual harassment at workplace. The Bill is under examination in the Ministry.

National Commission for Women

2.48 The National Commission for Women (NCW) was constituted on 31.1.1992 as an apex level statutory body under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990. The main task of the Commission is to study and monitor all matters relating to the Constitutional and legal safeguards provided for women and to review the existing legislations and suggest amendments, wherever necessary. NCW is also mandated to look into the complaints and take suo moto notice of the cases involving deprivation of the rights of women in order to provide support, legal or otherwise, to helpless and needy women. Ensuring custodial justice is another important function. The NCW is empowered to monitor the proper implementation of all the legislations made to protect the rights of women so as to enable them to achieve equality in all spheres of life and equal participation in the development of the nation.

UNDP-GOI Project on Gender Equality

2.49 The Ministry signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with UNDP in July 2004 for implementation of a project titled "Promoting Gender Equality". A Standing Committee under the chairpersonship of Joint Secretary (Women Welfare) was constituted to facilitate programme implementation. Activities finished so far in the current year are as below:

- The process of Engendering of the Eleventh Five Year Plan formulation was taken up by Government of India through National Alliance of Women's Organisation (NAWO) under this Project in collaboration with UNIFEM. The objective of the process (that included five regional consultations and a

national consultation) was to reflect on the impact of macro processes and policies on women at the grassroots.

- Training workshops on gender budgeting were conducted under this project for both Central and State government officials.
- Three studies on elderly, disabled and home based workers have been completed to identify options for reducing their vulnerability.
- International Conference on “Mainstreaming time use survey in the National Statistical System in India” was held and the report is under print.

Convention on Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

2.50 India signed the Convention on Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) on 30th July 1980 and ratified it on 9th July 1993 with one reservation and two declaratory statements. The convention obligates the State parties to undertake appropriate legislative and other measures to eliminate discrimination against women and for guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedom on the basis of equality with men. The First Report was submitted (on 21st October) in 1997. This was considered (on 24th and 30th) in June 2000, when the Indian delegation led by the Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development made an oral presentation before the Committee. A combined 2nd and 3rd Periodic Report was submitted in June 2005. The UN Committee on CEDAW considered the Report on 18th January 2007. The next Report is to be submitted in 2010.

2.51 As the implementation of the provisions of CEDAW requires a greater dialogue and convergence among the various ministries

responsible for implementing different legal provisions, policies and programmes that work towards women’s equality and elimination of discrimination against women, an Inter-Ministerial Committee has been constituted, under the chairpersonship of the Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development. India is the second country in the world to have such a Committee for implementation of CEDAW.

Beijing Platform for Action

2.52 The Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995 was a landmark event that set the pace for women’s empowerment when a Declaration and Platform for Action (BFPA) were adopted. India adopted both without any reservations and identified 12 critical areas of concerns which include Poverty, Education & Training, Health, Violence Against Women, Women in Armed Conflict, Economy, Power & Decision Making, Institutional Mechanism for advancement of Women, Media, Environment, Human Rights of women and girl child. The Commission on the Status of Women reviews the progress made by the member countries in these areas. The 51st Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) was held in New York from 26th February to 9th March 2007. A delegation headed by Economic Adviser in the Ministry attended the meeting. Elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against girl child was taken up as the priority theme. The 52nd Session of CSW has been scheduled from 25th February to 7th March 2008. Priority theme would be financing for gender equality and empowerment of women.

Second East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting

2.53 The Ministry organized the Second East Asia Ministerial Meeting in New Delhi on 6th and 7th December 2007. Sixteen countries viz., the 10

ASIAN nations of Brunei Darussalam, Kingdom of Cambodia, Republic of Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Union of Myanmar, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, and Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, together with Australia, People's Republic of China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea and New Zealand were to participate in the meeting. However the countries of Brunei Darussalam, Singapore and Laos, were not represented. The Meeting was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. The inaugural address was followed by ministerial addresses. The thematic issues taken up for discussion were Home Based Workers, Violence against Women and Women in Decision Making. The meeting ended with the adoption of a joint ministerial communiqué.

2.54 The first Meeting was held in Japan in 2006 and the next and third meeting would be held in Korea in 2009.

South Asia Regional Ministerial Conference

2.55 The Sixth South Asia Ministerial Conference was held in New Delhi from 17-19 January 2008. All the SAARC countries including Afghanistan were represented. The conference was inaugurated by the Honourable President of India. The SAARC Secretary General also attended the inaugural function. This meeting is held once in every two years to review the action taken and progress made by the respective Governments on the Beijing Platform for Action which has become a base document for measuring gender justice and women's empowerment. This conference initiated by UNIFEM-South Asia Regional Office in September 1996, brings together governments, NGOs and member of the civil society. In pursuance of the Islamabad Declaration : Review and Future Action adopted in the last meeting in 2005, this meeting brainstormed and strategized on some critical concerns related to gender



Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MOS(I/C), MWCD with Leader of Pakistan Delegation in the Sixth South Asian Regional Ministerial Conference(17-19th January, 2008)



Sixth South Asian Regional Ministerial Conference(17-19th January, 2008)



Participants of the Sixth South Asian Regional Ministerial Conference(17-19th January, 2008)

equality especially 'Substantive Equality and Gender Justice in South Asia'. The meeting ended with the adoption of forward moving strategies on crucial gender issues affecting women across countries in the region.

International Women's Day

2.56 8th March is celebrated as International Women's Day all over. A week long celebration was scheduled this year to mark this day starting



Celebrating International Women's Day-8th March 2008 - Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson UPA, Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MOS(I/C), MWCD and Smt. Gursharan Kaur w/o Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Sh. Anil Kumar, Secretary, MWCD and two Sarpanches from Haryana State

from 3rd March 2008. The theme adopted by the Ministry for this day is 'Survival to success: Celebrate her life'. This year, special focus

revolved around three themes viz., Girl Child, Trafficking and Eve Teasing.



International Women's Day -Inauguration of Workshop on 'Prevention of Female Foeticide' by Hon'ble MOS(I/C), MWCD at YMCA, New Delhi on 5th March, 2008

2.57 Celebrated on 8th March, International Women's Day is the global day connecting all women around the world and inspiring them to achieve their full potential. The United Nation's theme for 2008 is: Investing in Women and Girls.

The theme for the Ministry of Women and Child Development is

“Survival to Success
Celebrate her life”

A weeklong celebration has been organised beginning 3rd March 2008 with press conference as curtain raiser followed by the following activities:



Smt. Sonia Gandhi , Chairperson, UPA flanked by Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Hon'ble Minister of State(I/C), MWCD during International Women's Day 2008

4th March 2008: Conference on Prevention of Trafficking at 10 AM at Vigyan Bhavan

5th March 2008: Workshop on Prevention of Female Foeticide at 10 AM at YMCA



Pledging support against the practice of 'Female Foeticide' on the eve of International Women's Day (March 5, 2008 at YMCA, New Delhi)

8th March 2008: Presentation of Stree Shakti Puraskaar at Siri Fort Auditorium

8-9 March 2008: Health Exhibition at Siri Fort

8-10 March 2008: Nutrition Exhibition at India Gate Lawns

9th March 2008: Screening of films Chameli and Dor at Siri Fort

2.58 This being the International Women's Day, the Ministries of Civil Aviation, Railways and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation have been requested to make special announcements. There would be a special announcement in all the flights/Rajdhani and Shatabdi/Metro Trains that day. The boarding passes and baggage tags would carry the slogan: "Survival to Success. Celebrate her life". They have also been requested to display our slogan in the airports and in the railway stations. Ministry of Finance has been requested to display the slogan in all the ATM receipts of that day and the Telecommunication Ministry to SMS it.

Stree Shakti Puraskar

2.59 Indian Women have taken on different roles before and after Independence and excelled in many fields. The fact that in most cases, success has been achieved in the face of adversity and

difficulties and with the strength of courage, initiative and determination makes them precious.

2.60 It is important that such success stories are publicly recognized so that such women become role models for the future generations of Indian women. As a measure of recognition of achievements of individual women in the field of social development, the Government of India has instituted five national awards titled 'Stree Shakti Puraskar'.

2.61 The Puraskar is given in the names of Jhansi Ki Rani Lakshmi Bai, Kannagi, Rani Gaidenlieu, Devi Ahilya Bai, Mata Jija Bai. The award carries a cash prize of Rs.3.00 lakh and a citation.

2.62 On 8th March, fifteen women were awarded Stree Shakti Puraskar by Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson, UPA in the presence of Smt. Gursharan Kaur, wife of Honourable Prime Minister of India. Details of the awardees are as given in the table below.

2.63 The Ananya Flag on empowerment of women was hoisted by Smt. Sonia Gandhi. UN Secretary General's message was read out by the Director, UN Information Centre and Spokesperson of the UN Secretary General.

Stree Shakti Puraskar Awardees

	Year-2004	Year-2005	Year-2006
Jhansi Ki Rani Lakshmi Bai (for courage)	Mrs. Tirveni Balkrishna Acharya, Maharashtra	Dr.(Smt.) Rani Bang, Maharashtra	Smt. Vanguri Suvatha, Andhra Pradesh
Kannagi (for social upliftment of women)	Ms. Pinki Virani, Delhi	Smt. Shaik Shamshad Begum, Andhra Pradesh	Smt. Kalpana Sarkar, Madhya Pradesh
Rani Gaidenlieu Zeliang (for upliftment of tribal women)	Smt. Monmohani Debnath, Tripura	Smt. Salmin Lyngdoh, Meghalaya	Smt. Senu Tsuhah, Nagaland
Devi Ahilya Bai (for administrative skills)	Smt. Kavita Srivastava, Rajasthan	Smt. Neeta Bahadur, Uttar Pradesh	Smt. D. Shanthi, Tamil Nadu
Mata Jijabai (for the spirit of motherhood)	Smt. Shamshad Begum, Chattisgarh	Smt. Sandhya Raman, Delhi	Smt. Nighat Shafi Pandit, J & K

SAARC Gender Data base

2.64 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal agency for SAARC Gender data shop in India and is actively participating in its development. SAARC Gender data shop is a unique web site containing statistical data as well as important information related to gender issues which was launched during the 6th South Asia Ministerial Conference commemorating “Beijing Declaration” held in New Delhi on 17/1/08 by His Excellency the SAARC Secretary General.

Compilation of Gender Development Index/Gender Empowerment Measure

2.65 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has initiated the activity of compilation of Gender Development Index and Gender Empowerment Index for India and States under GOI-UNDP project of ‘Promoting Gender Equality’. The Indian Institute of Public

Administration is the collaborating National Institution for this project.

Mainstreaming Time Use Survey in India

2.66 The Central Statistical Organisation of Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India had conducted the first Time Use Survey on a pilot basis in 1998-99 through the State Directorates of Economics and Statistics covering the States of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Meghalaya. The Ministry of Women and Child Development conducted an International Seminar on ‘Towards Mainstreaming Time Use Surveys in National Statistical System in India’ during 24-25th May 2007 at Goa, in collaboration with Centre For Development Alternatives, Ahmedabad. The participants of the seminar included experts, policy makers and practitioners from India as well as experts from international organizations and from developing and developed countries.



Programmes For Children

3

Programmes For Children

3.1 Children in age group 0-15 years constitute 41% of the population. Children are the future human resource of the country and the Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing various schemes for welfare, development and protection of children. The details of schemes and programmes undertaken for children are given below:

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme

3.2 The Integrated Child Development Services

(ICDS) scheme was launched in 1975 with the following objectives:

- (i) to improve the nutritional and health status of children below the age of six years and pregnant and lactating mothers;
- (ii) to lay the foundation for the proper psychological, physical and social development of the child;
- (iii) to reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, mal-nutrition and school drop-outs;



Play activities in an Anganwadi Center in Tamil Nadu State

- (iv) to achieve effective coordination of policy and implementation among various departments to promote child development;
- (v) to enhance the capability of the mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of the child through proper health and nutrition education.

Services:

3.3 The Scheme provides a package of following services to children below 6 years and pregnant & lactating mothers from disadvantaged sections:

- (i) supplementary nutrition
- (ii) immunization
- (iii) health check-up
- (iv) referral services,
- (v) pre-school non-formal education and
- (vi) nutrition & health education.

Pattern:

3.4 It is an ongoing Centrally Sponsored scheme implemented through the State/UT Governments with 100 per cent financial assistance from the Central Government for all inputs other than supplementary nutrition which the States were to provide from their own resources. However, from the year 2005-06, the Government of India has been providing Central assistance to States/UTs for supplementary nutrition also to the extent of 50% of the actual expenditure incurred by States or 50% of the cost norms, whichever is less.

Population Norms:

3.5 Existing Norms: The Scheme envisages that the administrative unit for the location of ICDS Project will be the CD Blocks in rural areas, tribal blocks in tribal areas and ward(s) or slums in urban areas. An Anganwadi Centre(AWC) is sanctioned on an average, for 1,000 population in rural/urban

projects and 700 population in tribal Project, with suitable adjustments, wherever necessary, in the light of local conditions.

Sparsely populated hilly/desert areas: In hilly or desert areas, which may be sparsely populated, villages may be very small or divided into small hamlets. In such cases, an Anganwadi may be set up in a village or a hamlet having a population of 300 or more.

Mini-AWCs: Mini Anganwadi Centre can be set up to cover the remote and low populated hamlets/villages in tribal blocks, having a population of 150 to 300.

Revised Population Norms: An Inter-Ministerial Task Force was set up in 2004 to review the



One of the Child-friendly Anganwadi Centres at South Andaman District

existing population norms for sanction of an ICDS Project/AWC and suggest revised norms. The Task Force submitted its reports/recommendations in May, 2005. The revised population norms recommended by the Task Force were 500-1500 for setting up an AWC in rural & urban projects and 300-1500 in tribal projects. Similarly, the population norms for setting up a Mini-AWC in rural and tribal projects were 150-500 & 150-300 respectively. Based on these population norms, the Scheme was expanded (2nd phase) in 2006-07 by sanctioning 166 additional ICDS Projects, 1.07 lakh AWCs and 25943 Mini-AWCs, across the country.



Inaugural Function of 48 Child-friendly Anganwadi Centres at Car Nicobar

3.6 To achieve Universalisation of the ICDS Scheme, the Task Force revisited the population norms and recommended further relaxation, which are as under:-

- (i) Community Development Block in a State should be the unit for sanction of an ICDS Project in rural/tribal areas, irrespective of number of villages/population in it.
- (ii) The existing norm of 1 lakh population for sanction of urban project may continue.

3.7 Further to this, the Task Force recommended that for blocks with more than two lakh population, States could opt for more than one Project (one per one lakh population) or could opt for one project only. In the later case, staff could be suitably strengthened based on population or number of AWCs in the block. Similarly, for blocks with population of less than 1.00 lakh or so, staffing pattern of CDPO office could be less than that of a normal block.

Anganwadi Centres:

For Rural/Urban Projects

400-800	-	1 AWC
800-1600	-	2 AWCs
1600-2400	-	3 AWCs
Thereafter in multiples of 800	-	1 AWC

For Mini-AWC

150-400		1 MiniAWC
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For Tribal /Riverside/Desert, Hilly and other difficult areas/ Projects

300-800	-	1 AWC
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For MiniAWC

150-300	-	1 Mini AWC
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3.8 To consider further expansion of the ICDS Scheme, States/UTs were requested to carry out micro-level planning and furnish their requirement



Beneficiaries of Supplementary Nutrition in an Anganwadi Center in Haryana State

of additional AWCs/Mini-AWCs. Based on the requirements of States/UTs, further expansion of the Scheme is underway on the basis of above norms.

Supplementary Nutrition norms:

On an average, the effort should be to provide daily nutritional supplements to the extent indicated below:

(Adolescent Girls will be provided supplementary nutrition at the same scale as admissible to pregnant & lactating mothers)

- Provisions regarding promotion of breast-feeding in the IMS Act are relevant.

Financial Norms:

3.9 The State/UT Governments are responsible for providing supplementary nutrition as per norms

Beneficiaries	Calories (cal)	Protein (g)
Children below 3 years*	300	8-10
Children 3-6 years	300	8-10
Severely malnourished Children on medical advice after health check-up	600	16-20
Pregnant & Lactating (P&L) Mothers	500	20-25

(Adolescent Girls will be provided supplementary nutrition at the same scale as admissible to pregnant & lactating mothers)

* Provisions regarding promotion of breast-feeding in the IMS Act are relevant.

of the Scheme out of their own resources. The cost of supplementary nutrition varies depending upon recipes and prevailing prices. However, the Central Government provides guidelines regarding cost norms from time to time. The Government of



Non-formal Pre-school Education through different activities in an Anganwadi under ICDS

India has issued revised guidelines vide letter No. 19-5/2003-CD-I (Pt.) dated 19.10.2004, the details of which are as under:-

Registration of beneficiaries:

3.10 Since BPL is no longer a criteria under ICDS, States have to ensure registration of all eligible beneficiaries.

Coverage:

Projects: The ICDS Scheme started in 33 Blocks (Projects) in 1975. gradually expanded to 5652 Projects (4533 Rural, 759 Tribal and 360 Urban) till the end of IX Plan. Out of 5652 Projects, 922 Projects were being implemented with World Bank assistance till 31.3.2006. All the World Bank assisted Projects, hitherto, being implemented through World Bank assistance are now being funded under ICDS (General).



During a Film Show 'Chak De India' in Vatsalya Mela at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi



A Session on Health and Nutrition Education under ICDS Scheme

Currently, the Scheme covers 6284 ICDS Projects, 10.53 lakh AWCs and 36829 Mini-AWCs, across the country. Of these, 5959 Projects and 9.37 lakh AWCs have become operational, as on 30.09.2007.

Beneficiaries: Currently, services under the scheme are being provided to about 761.69 lakh beneficiaries, comprising of about 629.64 lakh children (0-6 years) and about 132.05 lakh pregnant and lactating mothers through a network of about 9.37 lakh operational Anganwadi Centres.

Implementation of ICDS in the X Plan: The Scheme was approved for implementation in the X Plan in the existing 5652 Projects with no expansion activity in view of resource constraints.

Out of the sanctioned 5652 Projects, 922 operational Projects were being funded with loan from the World Bank.

Expansion of the ICDS (1st and 2nd phase):

1st Phase: To comply with directions of the Supreme Court and to implement the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) of the Government, all States/UTs were requested to furnish their requirement of additional projects and/or Anganwadi Centres within the existing population norms of the Scheme (one AWC for 1000 population in rural/urban areas and 700 population in tribal areas). Based on the

Beneficiaries	Rates	
	Old Rates	Revised Rates
(i) Children (6 months to 72 months)	95 paise per child/ per day	Rs.2.00 per child/ per day
(ii) Severely malnourished Children (6 months-72 months)	135 paise per child/ per day	Rs.2.70 per child/ per day
(iii) Pregnant women and Nursing mothers/ Adolescent Girls (under KSY).	115 paise per beneficiary per day	Rs.2.30 per beneficiary per day

requirements received from the States/UTs, 466 new Projects and 188,168 new AWCs were sanctioned, which included 19 Projects and 6817 AWCs sanctioned to Jammu & Kashmir in December 2004.

2nd phase: To ensure coverage of all uncovered habitations/settlements, population norms for sanctioning an AWC have been relaxed. States were asked to furnish requirement of additional Projects/AWCs based on revised population norms. Based on the requirements received from States/UTs, 166 additional Projects, 106833 Anganwadi Centres and 25943 Mini AWCs were sanctioned.

State-wise number of Projects and Anganwadi Centres sanctioned including the 1st and 2nd phase and the Project and Anganwadi Centres operational as on 31.12.2007 is given in **Annexur- XII**.

Expenditure under ICDS:

3.11 Alongside gradual expansion of the Scheme, there has also been significant increase in the Central Government's spending on its implementation. As against an expenditure of Rs. 2271.28 crore during the VIII Plan a sum of Rs. 4556.52 crore was spent on the ICDS Scheme in the IX Plan. The Plan allocation for ICDS for the Xth Plan was Rs. 10391.75 crore.

State-wise details of funds released by GOI during 2006-07 and 2007-08 (upto 12.03.2008) for ICDS(General) and Supplementary Nutrition are at **Annexure-XIII**.

Funds released and expenditure reported by the States under ICDS during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 on Supplementary Nutrition (as on 12.12.2007) is given at **Annexure-XIII a**.

3.12 Kishori Shakti Yojana: Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY) is being implemented by the Ministry of Women & Child Development using the infrastructure of ICDS. The Scheme targets adolescent girls in the age group of 11 to 18 years, for addressing their needs of self development, nutrition and health status, literacy and numerical skills, vocational skills etc. KSY is being implemented in 6118 ICDS projects. State-wise list of the blocks sanctioned for KSY is at **Annexure- XIV**.

3.13 Under KSY, various programmatic options are available to the States /UTs to selectively intervene for the development of the adolescent girls on the basis of specific needs of the area. KSY also seeks convergence with schemes of the Health Department in order to improve the nutritional and health status of the adolescent girls

3.14 Grant-in-aid @ of Rs.1.10 lakh only per block per annum is released to the States/UTs for the implementation of KSY. A sum of Rs. 27.29 crore have been released to States /UTs under KSY in 2007-08 (as on 19.2.2008). State-wise details of funds released under KSY (as on date) are given in **Annexure XV**.

Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG):

3.15 The Government approved continuation of Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) in the year 2007-08 on a pilot project basis. The project is being implemented in 51 identified districts i.e. in 2 backward districts each, in major states, identified on the basis of ranking developed by Rural Development Division of the Planning Commission and in the most populous



Kishori Shakti Yojana- Adolescent Girls in different activities in Haryana

district excluding the capital district) each, in smaller States/ UTs. . The list of the districts is at **Annexure XVI**.

3.16 Undernourished Adolescent Girls in the age group 11-19 years with body weight less than 30 kg in the age group of 11 – below 15 years and 35 kg in the age group of 15 – 19 years are

covered under the scheme. Free foodgrains @ 6 kg. per beneficiary per month, are provided to these undernourished adolescent girls. The programme has been operationalised through the administrative set up of ICDS at the state, district, block and Anganwadi Center level. The success of the intervention is dependent on effective linkages with the Public Distribution System

(PDS) and effective synergy and convergence with health services.

Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP):

3.17 Foodgrains (wheat & rice) are allocated by Department of Food & Public Distribution at BPL rates to this Ministry for further allocation of the same to the States/UTs. Foodgrains sanctioned under the Scheme are used for preparation of supplementary nutrition to be distributed among the beneficiaries of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme. During 2007-08, Department of Food & Public Distribution has allocated 3.25 lakh MTs of wheat and 2.19 lakh MTs of rice out of which 319621 MTs of wheat and 2,18,824 MTs of rice have been allocated by this Ministry to various States/UTs (as on 15.2.2008).

CARE:

3.18 Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE), an International voluntary organization, has been contributing towards the improvement of services under ICDS through capacity building of functionaries, creating awareness about the health and care among the people, especially, pregnant women, nursing mothers and children, extending technical support for improving the service delivery etc.

3.19 Integrated Nutrition and Health Programme of CARE has been approved for a period of 3 years w.e.f January 2007. INHP III is in operation in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal covering a total of 711 blocks. Besides this, there are also replication areas in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Chattisgarh. Efforts will also be made to implement the best practices of CARE which have been noted during the two phases of INHP. Best practices include fixed day, fixed site service delivery at monthly Nutrition and Health days (NHD), community volunteer change

agents and Reproductive Health Change Agents (in rural Chayan), Community-Based Monitoring Systems and Block-Level Resource Mapping.

3.20 INHP III is the **phase-out programme of INHP series** and no food commodity is involved under this. 342 blocks have been phased out by September 2007.

3.21 CARE has also been implementing several non-food projects in the areas of population and Reproductive health, Girls education, maternal & child health, provision of micro credit facilities etc.

World Food Programme:

3.22 World Food Programme (WFP), a United Nations Agency has been extending technical assistance in the fortification of supplementary nutrition in 11 districts in the States of Madhya Pradesh (2 districts), Orissa (3 districts), Rajasthan (3 districts) and Uttarakhand (3 districts). The Mid Term Evaluation of the present Country Programme (2003-08) has been completed.

UNICEF support to ICDS:

3.23 Ever since the launch of ICDS Scheme UNICEF has been extending technical as well as material support to ICDS in terms of supplies viz. Jeeps, weighing scales, photocopying machines, typewriters, growth charts, IFA tablets and technical support. UNICEF supplies during 2006-07 have, however, been limited to the weighing scales, growth monitoring charts and photocopiers to new Projects. UNICEF will now focus on strengthening ICDS system by contributing to improvement of supply chain management, technical support and innovations to improve the quality of growth, monitoring and promotion.

Pre-School Education:

3.24 Care of Pre-school Children including Pre-Primary Education' has been transferred to the Ministry of Women & Child Development

through an amendment to the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 vide notification dated 16.02.2006.

3.25 Pre-School Education is being promoted as a part of the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) under the ICDS Scheme.

Special Focus on North East:

3.26 Keeping in view the special needs of North Eastern States, the Central Government sanctioned construction of 4800 Anganwadi Centres at the cost of Rs. 60 crore in 2001-02 and 7600 Anganwadi Centres at a cost of Rs. 95 crore have been sanctioned in 2002-03. Another 7600 more AWCs at a cost of Rs. 95.00 crore have been sanctioned in 2004-05. With this, the ICDS Projects in North Eastern States have been brought at par with the World Bank assisted projects where civil works are the main additionality.

Holistic Development:

3.27 The Ministry's emphasis has been on integrated & holistic development of children, as far as the two basic elements of human resource development, i.e. health and education, are concerned.

3.28 Article 45 of the Constitution has been recently amended to state that "The State shall endeavor to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of 6 years".

3.29 In this light, in addition to emphasis on supplementary nutrition and convergence with health services, special focus is also being given to the pre-school education component of the ICDS Scheme, so that the children are fully prepared for entering Class I at the age of 6 years under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan & District Primary Education Programme. For this, the States have been requested to ensure necessary convergence between ICDS Scheme and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan & District Primary Education Programme.

3.30 A meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee was held on 25.06.2007 in Srinagar under the Chairpersonship of Mrs Renuka Chowdhury, Hon'ble MOS (I/c), WCD. The Hon'ble Members of the Committee, Shri Francis Fanthome, MP(Lok Sabha), Smt. Viplove Thakur, MP (Rajya Sabha), Smt P.Satheedevi, MP (Lok Sabha), Shri K.V.Patil, MP (Lok Sabha) and Shri C.K.Chandrapan, MP (Lok Sabha) attended the meeting. The Committee deliberated on the subject "ICDS- Concept and Challenges" and offered their valuable suggestions on the implementation of ICDS Scheme during XI Five Year Plan.

Major initiatives:

3.31 Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana: In line with the aim of the Government to provide risk coverage for workers in the unorganized sector, a benefit has been extended to Anganwadi Workers and Helpers through an insurance scheme under the Life Insurance Corporation's Social Security Group Scheme. The Scheme is optional for the target group.

3.32 Awards: To motivate the Anganwadi Workers, a Scheme of Awards for exemplary work done by them has been introduced. This provides for Rs.25,000/- cash and a Citation at Central level and Rs.5000/- cash and a Citation at State level.

3.33 Convergence: There has been emphasis on convergence of services under various schemes/programmes viz. health, education, safe drinking water so as to achieve the desired impact. States have been requested to activate/set up Coordination Committees at State, district/block and village level to ensure proper delivery of services at Anganwadi level by concerned line functionaries of various Departments.

3.34 Expansion of the ICDS Scheme: To fulfill its commitments contained in the National Common Minimum Programme and to comply with Supreme Court's directives to increase the

number of Anganwadi Centres, the Scheme has been expanded twice in the years of 2005-06 and 2006-07 to cover all community Development Blocks and major slums of the country. With the expansion of the Scheme, the total number of Projects has increased to 6284 and that of Anganwadi Centres to about 10.53 lakhs, besides Mini-AWCs to 36829.

3.35 Expansion of Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY): It has been expanded to all the ICDS Projects throughout the country.

3.36 Supplementary Nutrition: With a view to improving the nutritional and health status of children and women, the Government has decided to share the cost of supplementary nutrition, with the States in the ratio of 50:50, which was hitherto the responsibility of the States/UTs.

3.37 Significant Achievement: As a result of concerted efforts and constant follow-up with the States, the number of operational Projects/AWCs and supplementary nutrition beneficiaries have increased considerably as indicated in the table given below.

3.38 It is significant to note that during a period of three and a half years i.e. from 31.3.2004 to 30.09.2007, the number of beneficiaries for Supplementary Nutrition has increased from 415.08 lakh to 761.69 lakh (83 % increase). Similarly, the number of children (3-6 Years) attending Anganwadi Centres for pre-school education has increased from 204.38 lakh to 308.14 lakh (50%) during the same period.

ICDS Training Programme:

3.39 The importance of training and continuous capacity building of the ICDS functionaries for improving the quality of service delivery in ICDS is vital for success of the ICDS programme. The quality of services under ICDS largely depends upon the skills of the ICDS functionaries, viz., Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), Supervisors, Child Development Project Officer (CDPO). From the inception of the ICDS scheme, the Government of India has formulated a comprehensive training strategy for ICDS functionaries. In the late nineties, the erstwhile Department of Women and Child Development decided to review the entire training component of ICDS. This was based on the premise that there was a need to mould the functionaries as agents of social and behavioral change. With this came into being the World Bank-assisted ICDS Training project, which was christened as 'Project Udisha'. This project was launched in the year 1999 for five years and ended on March 31, 2007 after 1.5 years of extension. After the completion of Project Udisha, ICDS Training programme is being continued with domestic resources and as per the procedures and norms prevailing during Project Udisha.

State Training Action Plans (STRAPs)

3.40 Under the ICDS Training programme, all States/UTs are required to submit State Training

Achievement under ICDS

	No. of operational projects	No. of operational AWCs	No. of Supplementary nutrition beneficiaries	No. of pre-school education beneficiaries
31.03.2004	5267	649307	415.08 lakh	204.38 lakh
31.03.2005	5422	706872	484.42 lakh	218.41 lakh
31.03.2006	5659	748229	562.18 lakh	244.92 lakh
31.03.2007	5829	844743	705.43 lakh	300.81 lakh
30.09.2007	5959	937434	761.69 lakh	308.14 lakh

Action Plans delineating the training programmes for ICDS functionaries, which are to be taken up during the year. Except Goa, Daman & Diu and Pondicherry, STRAPs were received from all States/UTs during 2007-08 and after due examinations, the same were approved to 32 States/UTs. An amount of Rs. 81.83 crore has been approved in the STRAPs with Rs. 65.13 crore under regular training (job and refresher), 13.55 crore under the induction training of AWWs and Rs. 3.16 crore under the 'other training' component. The details of the same has been given at **Annexure XVII**

Infrastructure for ICDS Training:

3.41 There is a countrywide infrastructure for the training of ICDS functionaries, viz. (i) Anganwadi Workers Training Centres (AWTCs) for the training of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers; (ii) Middle Level Training Centres (MLTCs) for the training of Supervisors and Trainers of AWTCs; (iii) State Training Institutes (STIs) for the training of Trainers of MLTCs and CDPOs/CDPOs in some States and (iv) National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) and its Regional Centres for training of CDPOs/ACDPOs and Trainers of MLTCs. As on 30.9.2007, a total of 500 AWTCs were operational across States/UTs. About 80% of these AWTCs are run by NGOs. In Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh training of AWWs is also being imparted through District level Mobile Training Teams (MTTs). 31 Middle level training centres (MLTCs) for training of Supervisors are operational in the country as on 30.9.2007.

3.42 During the 1st two quarters of 2007-08, a total of 30,298 AWWs, 412 Supervisors and 57,562 AWHs were reported to be imparted job training. Also 37,055 AWWs, 2435 Supervisors, 34961 AWHs were given refresher training.

Financial Status during 2007-08:

3.43 Against an allocation of Rs. 87 crore for the ICDS training programme during 2007-08, an

amount of Rs. 42.75 crore has been released to the States/UTs till 20.02.08. State-wise release of grants has been given at **Annexure XVIII**

Monitoring & Evaluation of ICDS Training Programme:

3.44 During 2007-08, implementation progress under ICDS Training programme has been reviewed at the central level with the major states in July and December 2007 at the central level. In addition, States/UTs have been suggested the following measures for an effective monitoring of the training programme:

- Conducting quarterly meetings at the State level with all AWTCs/MLTCs to review the implementation of training programmes as per the training calendar and State Training Action Plans (STRAPs);
- Ensuring timely release of grants to the training centres;
- Close monitoring of training programmes through regular visits by the concerned officials from the State HQs/District Offices;
- Ensuring timely deputation and participation of the functionaries to the training programmes; and
- Ensuring timely submission of quarterly progress reports (QPRs) to GoI.

Impact Evaluation of Project Udisha

3.45 During Feb-March 2007, the Ministry had initiated an impact evaluation of the erstwhile Project Udisha through NIPCCD. M/S Indian Institute of Development Management, Bhopal has been assigned the task of the evaluation in 15 selected States (Rajasthan, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya,

Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh) covering all regions of the country. The proposed evaluation will focus on the following major issues and offer evidence to support conclusions regarding the following:

- Impact of training on the knowledge and skills of the ICDS functionaries with respect to ICDS objectives;
- Impact of regular training on quality of service delivery by the AWWs;
- Effect of 'Other (innovative) training' with particular reference to needs of under-3 children; joint training with the health functionaries for convergence and participation of mothers'/Adolescent Girls group in health and nutrition activities at AWCs;
- Training needs of ICDS functionaries and Trainers- met and unmet;
- Quality of training with reference to training needs and field requirements;
- Comment on the training design, revised syllabi and training duration;
- Impact of IEC activities on behavior change; and
- Impact of training in improving monitoring and supervision by the ICDS functionaries.

Draft findings of the evaluation study are under process.

IDA Assisted ICDS-IV Project (proposed)

3.46 After the closure of the World Bank assisted ICDS-III/WCD Project (1999-2006), the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), Government of India has negotiated with the World Bank for the International Development Association (IDA) support to the next phase of the Integrated Child Development Services

(ICDS) programme, viz. ICDS-IV Project, which is currently at the planning/preparation stage. The proposed ICDS-IV Project is different from the earlier IDA supported ICDS projects in terms of its key principles and the processes being followed in its preparation.

3.47 The proposed ICDS-IV Project will have two major components viz., Nutrition and Early Childhood Education (ECE). The IDA assistance to the proposed project will be to the tune of US\$ 450 million with US\$ 250 million for the Nutrition component and remaining US\$ 200 million for the ECE Component.

Key reform principles of the ICDS-IV Project:

3.48 The IDA support to the ICDS-IV Project will be premised on the following five principles: -

- A simplified, evidence and outcome-focused program design that is likely to make impact on Nutrition and Early Childhood Education outcomes;
- Flexibility in ICDS design from central level.
- Stronger convergence at the operational level with health (RCH & NRHM) for nutrition and SSA/primary schools for the Early Childhood Education component.
- Stronger M&E linked to a funds disbursement strategy; and
- More intensive efforts and resources targeted to the high burden States/districts.

Selection of States/Districts:

3.49 158 high-burden districts from eight States viz., Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Bihar, Chhattisgarh Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh have been identified for implementation of the project based on the low nutritional status of children under 72 months and anaemia level among pregnant women of age 15-

44 years (a technical mapping study was conducted by the World Bank to identify high burden states/districts) and good practices experience.

Preparation of Project Implementation Plans (PIPs)

3.50 A key component of the project preparation is the formulation of State Project Implementation Plans (State PIPs) alongwith District Annual Plans (DAPs) by the eight States and 158 districts. The State PIPs will outline how the participating States intend to utilize the additional resources, to be made available to them, for strengthening the implementation of the ICDS programme.

3.51 As part of the preparation of the project, the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), GOI organized a national workshop involving senior ICDS officials from the eight States and development partners during 9-10 October 2007 in New Delhi in cooperation with UNICEF. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the rationale for the project, sharing of the project concept note, key principles of the project, outline of the State PIP guidelines and on the next steps to be followed by the states for preparation of the State PIPs. The workshop helped to create a common understanding between MWCD, the senior ICDS Officials from the eight states, and the World Bank on the aforesaid issues. In sequel to the national workshop and as part of the next steps for development of State PIPs/District Annual Plans, all the eight States are required to organize State level workshops followed by Regional/District workshops with the stakeholders in the State to discuss and prepare plans by identifying several interventions.

3.52 Till date, State level workshops in Jharkhand (22-23 Nov), Andhra Pradesh (29-30 Nov), Uttar Pradesh (12-13 Dec), Rajasthan (27-28 Dec), Chattisgarh (10-11 Jan.), Maharashtra (21-22 Jan.), Madhya Pradesh (7-8 Feb.) and one regional workshop at Tirupathi (7 Nov), Andhra Pradesh

have been conducted to discuss in detail the modalities in preparation of these decentralized plans.

3.53 The Ministry has issued necessary guidelines for preparation of PIPs as well as organization of State/Regional/District level consultation workshops to eight project States. The project is expected to be launched during Sept.-Oct.08

Support from the Development Partners:

3.54 USAID and CARE-India have agreed to provide technical support to five out of the eight selected States (viz., Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh) in the development of State PIPs and district annual plans including organization of workshops at the State and regional/district level. UNICEF will be providing support to the remaining three States.

World Bank Missions:

3.55 As part of the project preparation process, the World Bank deputed three missions during the period September 2006 - October 2007. The Missions had held wide-ranging discussions with the Ministry, State Governments, Planning Commission and development partners (UNICEF, DFID, USAID, CARE, MI etc.) on various aspects of the proposed project.

Rajiv Gandhi National Crèche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers

3.56 Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers was launched with effect from 1st January, 2006 by merging the National Creche Fund with the Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organizations for Crèches/Day Care Centres for the Children of Working and Ailing Women. The scheme is being implemented through Central Social Welfare Board and two national level voluntary

organizations, namely, Indian Council for Child Welfare and Bharatiya Adim Jati Sevak Sangh. In the revised scheme the financial norms have been enhanced from Rs 18,480/- to Rs 42,384/- per crèche per annum. The honorarium to crèche workers has been enhanced from Rs 800/- to Rs 2000/- per month for two crèche workers. The component of supplementary nutrition has been raised from Rs 1.05 to Rs 2.08 per child per day for 25 children for 26 days in a month. User charges of Rs 20/- from BPL families and Rs 60/- from other families per month have also been introduced. The income eligibility limit of family has been enhanced from Rs 1800/- per month to Rs 12,000/- per month. According to the schematic pattern, the implementing organization receives 90 percent of the total expenditure as grant except the honorarium of two crèche workers. A non-recurring grant of Rs 10,000/- per crèche is sanctioned to the implementing organization at the time of setting up of a crèche.

3.57 The Scheme provides crèche services to the children in age group of 0-6 years, which includes supplementary nutrition, emergency medicines and contingencies.

3.58 The Scheme has in-built component of monitoring of crèches. State-wise independent monitoring agencies have been identified in consultation with the State Governments. These agencies are like State Women Development Corporations, Women Study Centers in the Universities, National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi and other agency recommended by the State Government. **Upto 1.1.2008**, grant of **Rs 20.96 lakh (approx.)** has been sanctioned to monitoring agencies for monitoring of crèches.

3.59 The component of the crèche workers' training has been added to the scheme to orient the crèche workers to provide it better services and to build child friendly environment in the crèche

centers. A 10 day's training module for 30 crèche workers training has been finalized in consultation with National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development.

3.60 During the current financial year, a Budget Provision [Plan] of Rs. 100.00 crore (**Rs 10.00 crore for North Eastern States and Rs 90.00 crore for other States**) has been made under the scheme. **As on 1st January 2008**, an amount of **Rs 94.47 crore (approx.)** has been sanctioned under the scheme.

3.61 So far, about 31,737 crèches have been sanctioned to the implementing agencies. These crèches include 252 crèches sanctioned under erstwhile National Creche Fund.

3.62 With growing opportunity for employment of women and the need to supplement household income more and more women are entering the job market. With the breaking up of joint family system and the increased phenomenon of nuclear families, working women need support in terms of quality, substitute, care for their young children while they are at work. National Policy for Children 1994, National Policy for Education 1986, National Policy for Empowerment of Women 2001 and National Plan of Action for Children 2005 have emphasized the need for child care services. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Demands for Grants for the year 2002-03 had also pointed out that all sections of the society should be allowed to avail the services of the crèches. Labour Legislations also contained provisions for child care facilities for women workers. The National Common Minimum Programme also emphasizes enhancement of child care and development services in future. Thus there is need for an expanded and effective scheme for child care facilities. In pursuance of this, the Ministry is considering opening of about 5000 new crèches per annum.

3.63 Statement showing the number of crèches sanctioned and beneficiaries covered during 2007-08 (as on 14-03-2008) is at **Annexure XIX**.

Number of beneficiaries and grant sanctioned upto 1.1.2008 to run these crèches has been given at **Annexure---**

Cooperation with UNICEF

3.64 UNICEF projects are being implemented in India through Master Plan of Operations, which is an agreement prepared after mutual consultation and consensus within the framework of Basic Agreement signed between India and UNICEF in 1978. India is the largest Country Programme of UNICEF in the world.

3.65 The Programmes are being implemented through various Ministries and Departments dealing with children which includes Ministry of Women and Child Development, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and NACO, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, and Department of Drinking Water Supply (Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission).

3.66 The Ministry of Women & Child Development is the nodal Ministry for coordinating the implementation of the Master Plan of Operations. The Ministry of Women and Child Development conducts periodic review meetings to coordinate and monitor the implementation and expenditure of the UNICEF programmes in India

3.67 The current Master Plan of Operations (MPO) for the period 2003-07 was signed by GOI & UNICEF on 13th January, 2003. The total allocation for the last UNICEF-GOI Programme of Co-Operation for the period 2003-2007 is US\$ 400 million. An additional funds of US \$ 100 million has also been approved by UNICEF for utilization in the current MPO period.

3.68 The current MPO has come to an end in December 2007. The Country Programme Action Plan for the period 2008-2012 is being finalized for implementation in consultation with UNICEF and all implementing Ministries and Departments

which will replace the current MPO. UNICEF Headquarter has approved the Country Programme in principle in the meeting of the Executive Board held in September 2007 in New York. The Executive Board of UNICEF has approved an allocation of US\$162.89 million under Regular Resources and US\$350.0 million under Other Resources for India Country Programme.

3.69 India is annually contributing an amount of Rs.3.80 crore (equivalent to US\$900,000) to UNICEF.

The Commissions for Protection of the Child Rights Act 2005

3.70 As envisaged in the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act 2005 notified in the Gazette of India on 20th Jan., 2006 as Act No.4 of 2006 the Government has set up a National Commission for Protection of Child Rights(NCPCR) w.e.f. 5th March, 2007. Smt. Shantha Sinha has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Commission. In addition Smt. Sandhaya Bajaj and Ms. Dipa Dixit have also been appointed as Members in the Commission. The Commission would deal with all matters relating to children for proper enforcement of children's rights and effective implementation of laws and programmes relating to children.

Interaction of MOS (I/C) with Principals of Schools of Delhi on 'Safe Environment for Children'.

3.71 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is deeply concerned about the rise in the number of incidents of crimes against children being reported recently by the media, which include child abuse, corporal punishment, emotional, physical, sexual abuse, sex education, adolescent mothers, crimes committed by children neglect and abandonment by parents and guardians, etc. To tackle this problem at the grassroot level it is felt that the Government and the guardians/

caretakers, which includes school administration, have to work hand in hand to ensure a safe and protected environment to our children. For this schools can also be a medium for transmitting correct and useful protection related information through teacher training, development of child friendly materials, counseling, sex education, raising awareness on juvenile delinquency as well as sharing of best practices etc. The Ministry of Women and Child Development had an interaction with some schools of Delhi (Kendriya Vidyalayas, Govt. Schools, Public Schools & MCD Schools) and other concerned authorities in the Government and society on 25th January 2008. The objective of the workshop was to together devise ways and means to involve educational organisations and students in our joint effort for providing a safe and secure environment to children.

3.72 Minister of State (Independent Charge) Smt. Renuka Chowdhury chaired the meeting. Dr. Amit Sen of Sitaram Bhartiya Institute of Science and Research gave a presentation on child psychology and Mrs. Geet Oberoi, Founder President, ORKIDS gave presentation on early learning disabilities. Ms. Mano Rana, Principal, Govt. School, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi, Shri S.P. Thakur, Principal, K.V. Sector 8, R.K. Puram, New Delhi and the Principal of Lady Sriram Girls School also addressed the gathering on the occasion and shared their experiences and views about the role that can be played by schools in ensuring a safer environment for children.

Workshop on Child Budgeting

3.73 Analyzing the government budget allocations and actual expenditures on sectors that have an impact on children's well-being reveals these priorities as well as the ability of government programmes to reach India's children, who now constitute 40% of the country's population. With the understanding that analysis of resource allocations for children in Union and State

Government budgets can provide crucial insights on the deficiencies in public policy towards children in India, Ministry of Women and Child Development has since 2006 been undertaking analyses of Union and state budgets in partnership with the Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability (CBGA) and UNICEF

3.74 In order to address both the issues of allocations and effective utilisation of funds earmarked for children, the Ministry of Women and Child Development convened a one-day national consultation in New Delhi on 7th February, 2008 to identify issues, challenges and opportunities in accelerating progress towards quality services delivery through improved planning, allocations and resource utilisation. The consultation focused on identifying priority actions that can help remove procedural constraints that are resulting in under-utilisation of allocated resources, and the low absorption capacity of implementing agencies. The consultation also developed recommendations for improving planning and budgetary processes within an outcomes-based framework.

3.75 The workshop was attended by representatives of concerned Ministries and Departments, Planning Commission, Finance, Planning and Women and Child Development/ Social Welfare Departments of State Governments, national and international NGOs, UN agencies and others. Minister of State (Independent Charge) Smt Renuka Chowdhury chaired the workshop.

Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for providing Social Defence Services

3.76 Under the scheme, assistance is given to voluntary organisations working in the field of child and women welfare for innovative projects and activities which are not covered in the existing schemes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development. Under the Scheme in addition to the innovative projects being sanctioned in the field of women and child development, projects are also

sanctioned for combating trafficking in source areas and destination areas. Rs. 91 lakhs have been utilised in the current year till December, 2007 from the allocated funds of Rs. 7 crores for the current year.

Children's Day/Vatsalaya Mela

3.77 Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Women and Child Development inaugurated the Pavilion of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, "Vatsalaya", in Hall no. 16 in the India International Trade Fair on 14th November which remained open till closure of the Trade Fair on 27th November 2007.

3.78 The Pavilion had about 90 stalls that include stalls of Swayamshidha Women Self Help Groups from all States and Union Territories. The objectives to provide this platform to the women Self Help Groups was to arrange an opportunity for them to display and sell their products at the India International Trade Fair where a large scale business opportunity is available to the traders when lakhs of people visit and make business.

This enabled the SHGs in rural and remote places of the country to display and sell their regional and traditional products. The Pavilion had other stalls of the organizations of the Ministry viz. Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB), Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) and an Exhibition of the Ministry. There was Women and Child Helpline in the Pavilion for demonstration.

3.79 Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MOS (I/C) Women and Child Development convened a Press Conference in the Pavilion of the Ministry on 16th November 2007 when Trade Fair was opened for public in order to give wide publicity and making people aware of the Pavilion of the Ministry and to promote the products of Swayamsiddha Women SHGs. The Minister informed Press about the Swayamsiddha Scheme which is an Integrated Scheme for Women's Empowerment being implemented by the Ministry through formation of Self Help Groups. The long-term objective of the programme is the holistic empowerment of women through a sustained process of mobilization and convergence of all ongoing programme by improving access of micro-credit economic



Vatsalaya Mela at Pragati Maidan New Delhi (14-27 November, 2007)

resources etc. The most important component of the programme is formation, implementation and monitoring of block specific composite project with the elements of group formation, community orientation, and convergence with the other schemes of the Ministry and other Ministries. The scheme has been able to provide a forum for women empowerment, collective reflection and united action. The Pavilion also provides stage performances by State Cultural Troupes of CSWB and Song and Drama Division of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, which include folk and traditional dance, music, magic & puppet shows, skits, street plays and variety entertainment programmes for creating public awareness on social issues like women empowerment, domestic violence, dowry, eve teasing, child rights, female foeticide, girl child, prevention from abuse and exploitation and others.

3.80 A function was organized in Pragati Maidan on 14th Nov., 2007 in which National Child Awards for Exceptional Achievement, 2006 (one Gold Medalist and 35 Silver Medalists); National Awards for Child Welfare, 2006 (5 institutions and 3 individuals) and Rajiv Gandhi Manav Seva Award, 2007 (3 individuals) were presented in a ceremony held at Shringar Theatre, by Shri Janardan Dwivedi, Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on HRD and Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) Women and Child Development.

3.81 Special Cultural Programmes were also held in Shringar Theatre on 19th and 27th November 2007 and free Children's Film shows were held on 16th, 17th and 20th November 2007 in Shakuntalam Theatre especially for children of Children's Homes in Delhi.

The Mela was a grand success.

National Awards:

National Award for Child Welfare:

3.82 The Award was instituted in 1979 to honour five institutions and three individuals for their

outstanding performance in the field of child welfare. The National Award for Child Welfare includes a cash prize of Rs. 3 lakh and a certificate for each institution and Rs. 1 lakh and a certificate for each individual. The Awards for the year 2006 were presented in a function held in New Delhi on the occasion of Children's Day, the 14 November 2007. The Awards were presented by Shri Janardan Dwivedi, Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on HRD and Smt. Renuka Chowdhury,



National Award for Child Welfare- 2006

Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) Women and Child Development. A list of Awardees is at **Annexure XX**

Rajiv Gandhi Manav Seva Award:

3.83 This Award was instituted in 1994 to honour an individual who makes outstanding contribution



Greeting one of the child awardees during a ceremony of National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement-2006 on 14th November 2007

towards service for children. The Award carries a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh, a silver plaque and a citation. The Award were increased to three from the year 2006 The Awards for the years 2007 were presented in a function held in New Delhi on the occasion of Children's Day, the 14 November 2007. The Awards were presented by Shri Janardan Dwivedi, Chairman, Parliamentary Standing



*Rajiv Gandhi Manv Sewa Award-2007
Function in New Delhi*

Committee on HRD and Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) Women and Child Development. A list of Awardees is at **Annexure XXI**.

National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement:

3.84 The National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement was instituted in 1996 to give



*National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement-
2006 ceremony on 14 November 2007*

recognition to the children with exceptional abilities and who have achieved outstanding status in various fields including academics, arts, culture and sports etc.. Children between the age of 4 to 15 years who have shown an exceptional achievement in any field including academics, arts, culture and sports etc. are to be considered for this award. One Gold Medal and 35 silver Medals (one



*National Child Award for Exceptional
Achievement-2006*

for each State/UT) are to be given annually.

The Awards for the child with exceptional achievement consist of :-

A. Gold Medal – 1 (One)

- i) A cash prize of Rs.20,000/-
- ii) A Citation and certificates, and
- iii) A Gold Medal

B. Silver Medals – 35 (Thirty five)

- i) Award money @ Rs.10,000/- for each awardee.
- ii) A citation and certificate for each awardee, and
- iii) A Silver Medal for each awardee.

3.85 The Awards for the year 2006 were presented in a function held in New Delhi on the occasion of Children's Day, the 14 November 2007. The Awards were presented by Shri Janardan Dwivedi, Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee

on HRD and Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) Women and Child Development. The list of Awardees is at **Annexure XXII**.

National Bravery Awards

3.86 National Bravery Awards was instituted through Indian Council for Child Welfare since 1957. Each Award carries a prize of Rs.5, 000, a medal and a certificate. The Ministry of Women and Child Development contributes towards prize



National Bravery Award Winners with Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MOS(I/C), MWCD

money, expenditure on medals/certificates and boarding/lodging of the Awardees. During the year 2007-08, 22 Awards were given and the list of Awardees is given at **Annexure XXIII**.

Preparation of Reports on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its two Optional Protocols

3.87 India is a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its two Optional Protocols on sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and on children involved in armed conflict. It is obligatory on the part of a Member country signatory to the Convention to submit a Periodic Report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child on the implementation of the provisions of the Convention in the country. The

last review by the Committee on the Rights of the Child was held in January 2004. India is scheduled to submit the next Periodic Country Report on CRC and the first Report on the two Optional Protocols by July, 2008.

3.88 A High Powered Committee for the preparation of the Country Report on CRC and the two Optional Protocols has been constituted. The Committee has been constituted by the Ministry to oversee the preparation of the Country Reports. The Committee consists of the representatives of other concerned Ministries/Departments, State Governments, Institutions, experts and NGOs. The Committee discussed the matter and broadly decided about the strategy to be followed for preparation of the Reports. The First Meeting of the High Powered Committee was held on 12.2.2007 under the chairpersonship of Secretary, WCD which discussed about preparing the Country Reports on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Optional Protocols.

3.89 The preparation of the Country Report is an opportunity to document and show- case the progress that India has achieved for children since 2004. Each Ministry needs to highlight its achievements and the advancements made in the implementation of the CRC. As the country's XIth Five Year Plan is on the anvil, this is an excellent opportunity for all Ministries to review the specific challenges they have faced in achieving the goals set for children. The Ministry has asked the Ministries/Departments and State governments/UT Administrations to furnish necessary information/ inputs for preparing the Country Report on CRC.

3.90 Wide consultations are being held across the country as per the requirement for preparing CRC Report according to the Guidelines of UN CRC Committee to prepare the Report. We have, therefore, organized five workshops from July to October 2007 at Chandigarh, Bhopal, Lucknow, Guwahati and Bangalore. The participants were the officers from MWCD, UNICEF, New Concept (the agency which is contacted by UNICEF for

preparing the CRC Report), State Representatives, NGO representatives and Experts.

3.91 The information collected from Ministries, Departments, States, UTs, institutions, voluntary organizations and individuals are being compiled for preparing the reports on CRC and Optional Protocols. It is expected that the reports are ready well in time for submission to UN.

Study on Child Abuse: INDIA 2007

3.92 The Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India commissioned a the National Study on Child Abuse titled “Study on Child Abuse: INDIA 2007”, report of which was released by Smt. Renuka Chowdhury Hon’ble Minister of State for Women and Child Development on 9th April, 2007.

3.93 The aim of the study was to develop a dependable and comprehensive understanding of the phenomenon of child abuse, with a view to facilitate the formulation of appropriate policies and programs meant to effectively curb and control the problem of child abuse in India. The National Study on Child Abuse is one of the largest empirical in-country studies of its kind in the world. This study also complements the UN Secretary General’s Global Study on Violence against Children 2006.

3.94 The initiative of the Ministry to conduct this study was supported by UNICEF and Save the Children. A Delhi based NGO, Prayas was contracted to design and conduct the research and submit a preliminary report. After the submission of the preliminary report, the MWCD appointed a Core Committee to review the complete data, analyze the findings and produce the final report along with recommendations.

3.95 The study has provided revealing statistics on the extent and magnitude of various forms

of child abuse- an area by and large unexplored. The study has also thrown up data on variations among different age groups, gender variations, state variations and variations within evidence groups. The findings will help to strengthen the understanding of all stakeholders including families, communities, civil society organizations and the state.

Some of the major findings of the Study are:-

Major Findings:

1. Across different forms of abuse, and across different evidence groups, the younger children(5-12 years of age) have reported higher levels of abuse than the other two age groups
2. Boys, as compared to girls, are equally at risk of abuse
3. Persons in trust and authority are major abusers
4. 70% of abused child respondents never reported the matter to anyone

Physical Abuse

1. Two out of every three children are physically abused
2. Out of 69% children physically abused in 13 sample states, 54.68% were boys
3. Over 50% children in all the 13 sample states were being subjected to one or the other form of physical abuse
4. Out of those children physically abused in family situations, 88.6% were physically abused by parents
5. 65% of school going children reported facing corporal punishment i.e. two out of three children were victims of corporal punishment
6. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar and Delhi have almost consistently

reported higher rates of abuse in all forms as compared to other states

7. Most children did not report the matter to anyone
8. 50.2% children worked seven days a week

Sexual Abuse

1. 53.22% children reported having faced one or more forms of sexual abuse.
2. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar and Delhi reported the highest percentage of sexual abuse among both boys and girls.
3. 21.90% child respondents reported facing severe forms of sexual abuse and 50.76% other forms of sexual abuse.
4. Out of the child respondents, 5.69% reported being sexually assaulted.
5. Children in Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Delhi reported the highest incidence of sexual assault.
6. Children on street, children at work and children in institutional care reported the highest incidence of sexual assault.
7. 50% abuses are persons known to the child or in a position of trust and responsibility.
8. Most children did not report the matter to anyone

Emotional Abuse and Girl Child Neglect

1. Every second child reported facing emotional abuse
2. Equal percentage of both girls and boys reported facing emotional abuse
3. In 83% of the cases parents were the abusers
4. 48.4% of girls wished they were boys

3.96 The report can be accessed from the Ministry's website at <http://ws.wcd.nic.in/childabuse.pdf>

World Press Freedom Day 2007

3.97 Ministry organized a Workshop with media personalities on 3rd May 2007 on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day. The theme of the Workshop was "Gender Equality in India Media". The Workshop was inaugurated by Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi, Minister of Information and Broadcasting in the presence of Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MOS (I/C), MWCD. The workshop was attended by noted media personalities and activists like Mrinal Pandey, Ms. Manali Singhal, Ms. Ranjana Kumari and others. The workshop emphasized the gender equality in media.

Reconstitution of National Coordination Group(NCG)

3.98 A NCG was constituted by the Ministry of Women and Child Development vide its order dated 8th April, 2005 under the Chairpersonship of MOS(I/C)(WCD) for coordination of implementation of child rights. In order to expand the work area of the Group, the Ministry has reconstituted the NCG vide its order dated 12th Oct., 2007 with the inclusion of representatives of few other Ministries. The Group will soon meet to review the implementation of the provisions of National Plan of Action for Children.

Policy and Programmes for Care and Protection of Children

3.99 The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 is the primary law relating to juveniles in conflict with law as well as children in need of care and protection. This Act provides for proper care, protection and treatment of them by catering to their development needs and by adopting a child friendly approach in the adjudication and disposition of matters in the best interest of children and for their ultimate rehabilitation through various institutions established under this Act. The Juvenile Justice [Care and Protection of Children] Act , 2000

recognizes the legal necessity of care and protection of children i.e. below 18 years. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 has been amended replacing some of the existing provisions or new provisions have been added in the legislation and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act, 2006 notified in the Gazette of India on 23rd August, 2006.

3.100 State Governments are required to frame rules for their states under Section 68(1) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 to carry out the purposes of the Act. Keeping in view the amendments made in the provisions of the Act, the Union Government, Ministry of Women and Child Development has notified, in order to ensure uniformity and to facilitate the task of State Governments, the Model Rules, 2007 in the Gazette of India [Extraordinary] on 26th October, 2007. The State Governments may adopt these rules as it is and publish them in the State Official Gazette or notify them with such modifications as may be required in the State. These Model Rules have temporary applicability in the State till the new rules are framed by the State Government concerned under the above said provision of the Act. Ministry is keen that the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 and its Amendment Act, 2006 are implemented effectively and the bodies & institutions envisaged therein like Juvenile Justice Board, Child Welfare Committee, Special Juvenile Police Unit, State/District Child Protection Unit, Children Homes, Special Homes, Observations Homes, Shelter Homes, etc., are set up and start functioning at the earliest.

3.101 Ministry is implementing Plan schemes namely (i) A Programme for Juvenile Justice; (ii) An Integrated Programme for Street Children; (iii) Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection; and (iv) Scheme of Assistance to Homes [Shishu Greh] to Promote In-country Adoption, under the provisions of the Act for welfare and rehabilitation of the children

in conflict with law as well as children in need of care and protection. These programmes focus on children in crisis situation such as:

- street children,
- working children,
- abandoned, orphaned & surrendered infants,
- children in conflict with the law.

3.102 This Ministry recognizes that the primary responsibility for providing care and protection to children is that of the family. Therefore, in cases where the primary care and protection is not available, all efforts must be made towards rehabilitation and social reintegration through

- adoption
- foster care
- sponsorship and
- sending the child to an after care organization.

A Programme for Juvenile Justice

3.103 A Centrally Sponsored Scheme Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment Scheme was launched in 1986 which was renamed as Programme for Juvenile Justice in 1998 under which financial assistance is provided to the State Governments/ UT Administrations for establishment and maintenance of various levels of institutions for juveniles in conflict with law as well as children in need of care and protection under the provisions of the Act. The ratio of expenditure in case of Non Governmental Organization run homes are 45:45:10 among Central, State and NGO (in tribal areas on 47 ½: 47 ½:5 basis). The objectives of Programme for Juvenile Justice are:

- i. To extend help to State Governments to bear the cost of infrastructure and services development under the Juvenile Justice Act. The purpose is to see that in no circumstances the child in conflict with law is lodged in a regular prison.
- ii. To ensure minimum quality standards in the juvenile justice services.

- iii. To provide adequate services for prevention of social maladjustment and rehabilitation of socially maladjusted juveniles.
- iv. To ensure participation of community and other organizations in the care and protection of children in conflict with law who are perhaps more vulnerable than other groups of children.

3.104 The budget allocation under this scheme for the current financial year 2007-08 was Rs.21.00 crore which has been increased to Rs.24.90 crore in RE keeping in view the increased requirements of the State Governments/ UT Administrations. The details of grants released to the State Governments/ UT Administrations under this scheme up to 20.12.2007 are given at **Annexure XXIV**

An Integrated Programme for Street Children

3.105 The objective of this programme is to prevent destitution of children and facilitate their withdrawal from life on the streets. The programme provides for shelter, nutrition, health care, education, and recreation facilities to street children and seeks to protect them against abuse and exploitation. The strategy is to develop awareness and provide support to build the capacity of the Governments, NGOs and the community at large to prevent children from abuse.

3.106 The target group of this programme is children without homes and family support who are driven to the streets and are especially vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. Children living in slums with their parents are excluded from the coverage of this scheme.

3.107 State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, Local Bodies, Educational Institutions and Voluntary Organizations are eligible for financial assistance under this

programme. Upto 90% of the cost of the project may be provided by the Government of India and the remaining has to be borne by the Organization/ Institution concerned. Under the programme no predefined cost heads are stipulated. Depending upon the type of activity and the nature of service an appropriate amount not exceeding Rs.15 lakh per annum can be sanctioned as recurring cost for each project. The grant under the programme is released to selected organizations in two equal half-yearly installments

The main programme components of a project under this scheme are:-

City level surveys;

Documentation of existing facilities and preparation of city level plan of action;

Contact programmes offering counseling, guidance and referral services;

Establishment of 24 hours drop-in shelters;

Non-formal education programmes;

Programmes for reintegration of children with their families and placement of destitute in foster care homes/hostels and residential schools;

Programmes for vocational training and placement;

Programmes aimed at health care and reducing the incidence of drug and substance abuse, HIV/AIDS etc.;

Programmes for capacity building and for advocacy and awareness.

3.108 Since inception of the Scheme, 3,21,854 Street Children have been extended help by the Ministry through 83 Organizations in 21 States/ Union Territories. The budget allocation during the current financial year 2007-08 is Rs.10.00 crore. The details of the grants released during the year 2007-08 up to 31.12.2007 are given at **Annexure XLIII**.

Childline Services

3.109 The Child Line, having a dedicated number 1098, is a 24-hour toll free telephone service available to all children in distress or to adults on behalf of children in distress. At present, Child Line is working in 76 cities. The basic objectives of Childline Services are:

- i. To respond to the emergency needs of the children in difficulty and refer him/her to such services as he/she is in need of.
- ii. To provide a forum for networking among Government agencies and non-Governmental agencies dedicated to the network of services in child care and protection.
- iii. To sensitize hospitals, medical personnel, police, municipal corporations etc. towards needs of children.
- iv. Ensure protection of rights of the child.
- v) To provide an opportunity to communities to respond to the needs of children in difficult circumstances.

A list of these Childline in various cities is at **Annexure XXV**.

Childline India Foundation

3.110 Child Line operations are coordinated, monitored and expanded by Childline India Foundation which is the umbrella organization set up by the Government of India. Childline India Foundation lays down minimum quality standards of the services provided to children. Childline India has responded to more than 1,24,42,124 (up to October, 2007) number of calls since its inception in 1998. Overwhelming majority of calls have been for shelter, medical assistance, protection from abuse, emotional support and guidance, information regarding referral services and missing children.

Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection:

3.111 The objective of the scheme is to provide opportunities for non formal education, vocational training to working children to facilitate their entry/ re-entry into mainstream education in cases where they have either non attended any learning system or where for some reasons their education has been discontinued with a view to preventing their continued or future exploitation.

3.112 The programme lends support to projects in urban areas not being covered by the existing schemes of the Ministry of Labour & Employment, which provide support for the wholesome development of child workers and potential child workers especially those with none or ineffective family support such as children of slum/pavement dwellers/drug addicts, children living on railway platforms/ along railway lines, children working in shops, dhabas, mechanic shops, etc. children engaged as domestic workers, children whose parents in jail, children of migrant labourers/ sex workers, leprosy patients, etc.

The programme components are:

- a. facilitating introduction to/ return to the mainstream education system as children at study are not children at work
- b. counseling of parents, heads of families, relatives of the targeted children so as to prevent their exploitation, and
- c. give vocational training wherever necessary.

3.113 The Non Governmental Organisations are eligible for financial assistance and set up composite centres under this scheme. Ministry provides 90 per cent financial assistance and the concerned organization is to bear 10 per cent expenditure of the project as per the norms of the scheme.

The budget allocation for the current financial year 2007-08 under this scheme is Rs.7.00 crore. The details of grants released under this scheme upto 31.12.2007 are given at **Annexure XLIII**.

Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS):

3.114 Ministry has formulated a new centrally sponsored scheme-‘Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)’ with a view to create an environment for comprehensive development of children in the country.

Objectives:

3.115 The objectives of the scheme are to contribute to the improvements in the well being of children in difficult circumstances, as well as to the reduction of vulnerabilities to situations and actions that lead to abuse, neglect, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children. These will be achieved by: (i) improved access to and quality of child protection services; (ii) raised public awareness about the reality of child rights, situation and protection in India; (iii) clearly articulated responsibilities and enforced accountability for child protection (iv) established and functioning structures at all government levels for delivery of statutory and support services to children in difficult circumstances; (v) setting up of an operational evidence based monitoring and evaluation system.

Target Groups

3.116 The ICPS will focus its activities on children in need of care and protection and children in conflict and contact with the law.

3.117 The ICPS will also provide preventive, statutory and care and rehabilitation services to **any other vulnerable child including, but not limited, to:** children of potentially vulnerable families and families at risk, children of socially excluded groups like migrant families, families living in extreme poverty, lower caste families,

families subjected to or affected by discrimination, minorities, children infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS, orphans, child drug abusers, children of substance abusers, child beggars, trafficked or sexually exploited children, children of prisoners, and street and working children.

3.118 ICPS brings several existing child protection programmes namely (i) A Programme for Juvenile Justice; (ii) An Integrated Programme for Street Children; and (iii) Scheme for Assistance to Homes [Shishu Greh] to Promote In-country Adoption, under one umbrella and initiates new interventions.

Care, Support and Rehabilitation Services:

1. Emergency outreach service through ‘*CHILDLINE*’
2. Transitional shelters for children in need in urban and semi-urban areas
3. Family based non institutional care through Sponsorship, Foster-care, Adoption and After-care
4. Institutional services – Shelter homes, Children homes, Observation homes, Special homes, Specialized services for children with special needs
5. Website for missing children and Web-enabled child protection management information system
6. General grant-in-aid for need based/ innovative interventions
7. The budget allocation under this scheme for the current financial year 2007-08 is Rs.95 crore.

Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA)

3.119 Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA) was set up in 1990 and was subsequently registered

under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 on 18th March 1999 to act as an autonomous body in the matters relating to adoption. It has been designated as Central Authority by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on 17.7.2003 for the implementation of the Hague Convention on Protection of Children & Cooperation in respect of Inter-country Adoption (1993). It regulates and monitors the working of recognized social/child welfare agencies engaged in in-country adoptions through State Governments and U.T. Administrations as well as inter-country adoptions as provided under the Guidelines for In-country Adoption, 2004 and Guidelines for Adoption from India, 2006. These Guidelines replaced the earlier guidelines in order to bring in more simplicity and transparency in adoption procedures. These guidelines provide a framework to protect the interests of both biological and adoptive parents along with that of the children through the mechanisms of licensing, follow-up reports and documents, etc.

3.120 CARA grants recognition to Indian Placement Agencies on the recommendation of the State Government for processing inter-country adoption. It also accords enlistment to foreign agencies that are engaged in sponsoring applications of foreign prospective adoptive parents. These agencies are licensed by the appropriate Government Department in their country of origin to mediate in-country and inter-country adoptions and their applications for enlistment/renewal are forwarded and recommended by the India's Diplomatic Mission.

3.121 The budget allocation for CARA during the current financial year under Non-plan Head is Rs.1.50 crore and under Plan Head Rs.2.00 crore.

Associated Agencies:

- (i) **Recognised Indian Placement Agencies (RIPAs)** : At present, there are **64** adoption agencies recognized by CARA for placing children in inter-country adoption. However,

these agencies are required to give priority to in-country adoption. These Agencies do not receive Grant-in-aid from Central Government.

- (ii) **Enlisted Foreign Adoption Agencies (EFAAs)** : There are **85** foreign adoption agencies enlisted with CARA for processing the applications of the prospective foreign adoptive parents for adoption of Indian children. In addition, 46 Government Departments from 24 countries are also involved in the process.
- (iii) **Adoption Coordinating Agencies (ACAs)**: At present, there are **18** ACAs recognized by CARA for promoting in-country adoptions, maintaining a state level list of children available for adoption and prospective parents willing to adopt, carrying out publicity & awareness on adoption, and issuing Clearances for inter-country adoptions.

Training Initiatives:

3.122 Central Adoption Resource Agency has initiated Orientation Programmes under "National Initiative for Child Adoption". The Initiative has already completed 7 phases since 2000-2001. The training/orientation programmes are being organized for various target groups, such as, Placement Agencies, ACAs, Scrutiny Agencies, Sishu Grehs, Judicial Officers, Members of CWC, Medical Professionals and concerned State Government officials and other stakeholders. During 2007-08 about 28 training / orientation programmes have been proposed to be organized.

2nd International Conference on Adoption:

3.123 Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA) organized the 2nd International Conference on Adoption from 8th October 2007 to 10th October

2007 in Hotel Ashok, New Delhi on “Issues and Challenges in Inter-Country Adoptions”. Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Hon’ble Minister of State (IC) for Women and Child Development inaugurated the Conference. More than 200 representatives from Recognized Indian Placement Agencies, State Governments, Enlisted Foreign Adoption Agencies, Central Authorities of receiving countries, Foreign Diplomatic Missions in India, Adoption Forums and Internationally reputed experts, Foreign Universities/ Departments/ Research Centers specializing in adoption participated in the Conference.

Publicity and Awareness:

Some of the major initiatives taken in the year 2007-08 include the following:-

1. A directory of State Adoption Agencies has been published.
2. A booklet on “Adoption made Simple” has been published for the prospective adoptive parents. It provides information about the adoption procedures.
3. A guide for medical professionals has been entitled in English.

4. A directory of Authorities/ Agencies for Inter- Country adoption of Indian Children has been published.
5. A number of posters have been published on adoption.
6. A number of advertisements in leading new papers (National and Regional languages) have been published to promote legal adoption.
7. Newsletter named ‘Dattak’ has been published.

Data on Adoption:

3.124 Number of children placed in adoption through CARA associated agencies during the last 6 years are as follows:

Scheme of Assistance to Homes for Children (Shishu Greh) to Promote In-country Adoption

3.125 The main objective of this Scheme is to provide support for institutional care within the country for care and protection of infants and children up to 6 years of age who are either abandoned or orphaned or rendered destitute and

Year (Jan. to Dec.)	In-country Adoption			Inter-country adoption by NRIs/PIOs/ Foreigners No. of NOCs given for	Total (4+5)
1	2	3	4	5	6
	RIPAs	Shishu Grehs	Total	(2+3)	
2001	1960	573	2533	1298	3831
2002	2014	690	2704	1066	3770
2003	1949	636	2585	1024	3609
2004	1707	587	2294	1021	3315
2005	1541	743	2284	867	3151
2006	1536	873	2409	852	3261
2007 till September	431	177	608	391	999

ensure their rehabilitation through in-country adoption. Grant-in-aid is provided by the Ministry to NGOs for setting up Homes for infants (Shishu Greh) in order to promote their placement in in-country adoption. The scheme has been revised w.e.f. 01.04.2001 to enable Govt.-run-Children Homes to receive Grant-in-aid. Under the scheme, grant-in-aid is being given up to 90% to NGOs and 100% to the State run-Institutions for meeting the cost of the project subject to a ceiling of Rs.6.00 lakhs in a financial year. This scheme is being implemented by the Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA). The budget allocation under this scheme for the current financial year 2007-08 is Rs.3.00 crore and the details of grants released under this scheme upto 31.12.2007 are given at **Annexure XLIII**.

Child Marriage

3.126 Child marriage is a social evil that robs children of their childhood and retards their holistic development. Child marriage has continued to prevail in spite of seventy-eight years of enactment of Child marriage restraint Act, 1929.

3.127 In order to plug the shortcomings/inadequacies in the Act, the Ministry of Law and Justice, Legislative Department introduced the Bill “The Prevention of Child Marriage Bill, 2004” in the Rajya Sabha on 20.12.2004 which was referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee. The Group of Ministers (GOM) under the Chairmanship of Shri Arjun Singh, Hon’ble Minister of Human Resource Development considered the recommendations of Parliamentary Standing Committee from the Legislative Department on the subject of amendments to the Prevention of Child Marriage Bill, 2004.

3.128 Subsequently, the subject “Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929” was transferred to the Ministry of Women and Child Development w.e.f 18.2.2006.

On the basis of decisions of the GOM, the Ministry secured the approval of Cabinet in its meeting held on 21.09.2006 for a legislation on Child Marriage Prohibition Act and repeal of Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929. Thereafter, the amendments to the Prevention of Child Marriage Bill, 2004 were passed by the Rajya Sabha on 14.12.2006 and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006 was passed by the Lok Sabha on 19.12.2006. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 received the assent of the President on 10.11.2007 and was notified in the Gazette of India on 11th January, 2007.

3.129 The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 (No. 6 of 2007) has some forward looking provisions which include prohibition rather than prevention of child marriages and provision of relief to the victims of child marriage as well as enhanced punishments for all those who have actively abetted and solemnized the marriage. Under Section 19(1) and Section 16(1) of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, State Governments are required to frame rules and also to appoint Prohibition Officers. The State Governments/UTS have been requested to frame rules and to appoint the Prohibition Officers. In the light of an order passed by Supreme Court of India on 24.8.2007 and legal opinion given by Ministry of Law and Justice, Department of Legal Affairs, MWCD has enforced the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 w.e.f. 1.11.2007. The Gazette Notification was issued on 30.10.2007.

3.130 The Ministry is conducting training and sensitization workshops for various stakeholders on the salient features of the Act. A Guidebook for implementation of the Act is being prepared.

Girl Child

3.131 The girl child is the most vulnerable member of the society in India. The life chart of a disadvantaged girl child reflects strong elements

of discrimination at every step of her life – first being her very survival, on account of high incidence of foeticide. If she survives, she faces other types of discrimination where she has little or no access to education, nutrition, health or other essential needs; she is highly vulnerable to abuse, domestic labour, trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation, child marriage, early motherhood, frequent pregnancy and delivery etc. The situation further gets compounded if the girl child belongs to certain sections of society (mainly BPL families) where awareness and sensitization of the value of girl child may not be solely sufficient impetus for them to retain their daughter for various reasons unique to that family/community.

3.132 A significant reason for the above situation of the girl child is diversion of limited funds and facilities towards the male child in a family on account of ‘son preference’ as he has a much more important status in the familial hierarchy. This discrimination arises mainly on account of the perceptions of society towards a girl child, viewing her as a burden and not as an asset.

3.133 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has taken following initiatives to enhance the status of girl child:-

1. “Conditional Cash Transfer for Girl Child with Insurance Cover, Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched a new Pilot Scheme “Conditional Cash Transfer for Girl Child with Insurance Cover (CCT)” wherein cash transfers will be made to the family of the girl child (preferably the mother) on fulfilling certain specific conditionalities (Birth Registration, immunization, School enrollment and retention, delay in marriage of the girl child till age of 18 years). In addition, an insurance coverage to the tune of Rs 1 lakh would be taken for the girl child born on and after a cut-off date proposed. The central tenet of

CCT is the linking of cash to behavior by providing money to poor families contingent upon certain verifiable actions.

The objective of the Scheme is two fold –

- a. The direct and tangible objective is to provide a set of staggered financial incentives for families to encourage them to retain the girl child and educate her etc.
- b. The more subtle and intangible objective is to change the attitudinal mindset of the family towards the girl - by linking cash transfers to her well-being. This will force the families to look upon the girl as an asset rather than a liability since her very existence has led to cash inflow to the family.

3.134 The Scheme is being implemented as a pilot in eleven Blocks in seven States (Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab and Orissa) of the Country. These Blocks except in Punjab are educationally backward as identified by the Department of Education. A Pre Project Survey and setting up a Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism with support from World Bank is being undertaken.

3.135 The Scheme has been included in the Eleventh Plan and an Outlay of Rs 15 Crore is provided in Annual Plan 2007-08.

2. Effective Implementation of the Pre-Conceptional and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has given a number of suggestions for effective implementation of the Pre-Conceptional and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 by strengthening monitoring mechanism through multiple memberships including NGOs in the National Inspection and Monitoring

Committee, de-linking medical professional from Appropriate Authorities, suspension of errant clinics/doctors, system of incentives/decoy operations etc.

3. Awareness Generation on Female Foeticide

To combat female foeticide, a massive nationwide sensitization and advocacy campaign with specific focus on the importance of the girl child is being undertaken. As this requires multi-sectoral approach, MWCD has taken the lead in collaborating with Ministries such as Ministry of Defence (NCC, Army Wives Association etc), Ministry of Youth and Sports (NYKS and NSS), Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Ministry of Health and International Organizations to draw up a Plan of Action. The grassroot functionaries such as Anganwadi Workers (AWW), Auxiliary Nurse and Mid Wife (ANM), ASHA Worker, Panchayati Raj Institutions have been advised and sensitized to keep track of pregnant mothers and take note of the female births and tracking the progress of girl child.

The efforts of the Ministry of Women & Child Development has led to over 40,000 NCC youth throughout the country taking a pledge on 25th November 2007 on 'Prevention of Female Foeticide'. The Ministry in collaboration with UNFPA is also training NCC Directorates for taking the social cause of preventing female foeticide further.

Infant Milk Substitute, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1992 IMS Amendment Act, 2003

3.136 The Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India has been

instrumental in acting as a powerful tool to protect, promote and support breastfeeding in the form of the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution), IMS Act. In pursuance of the International Code, India framed and adopted the Indian National Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes in **1983**. As the National Code was not found adequate in the absence of legal back-up, the Government of India enacted the 'Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, **1992**'.

3.137 The World Health Organisation by World Health Assembly Resolution No.47.5 dated the 9th May 1994 called upon all Member Nations to aim at achieving this goal. The said resolution, *inter alia*, required Member Nations to foster appropriate complementary feeding practices for the infants from the age of about six months and encourage continued breastfeeding as well as proper feeding with safe and adequate amounts of local foods until the infant attain the age of two years.

3.138 In order to further strengthen the Act, the Government enacted 'Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Amendment Act, **2003**. The Amendment Act has come into force from 1.1.2004. The rules framed under the Act have also been amended to incorporate the provisions of the Amendment Act, which has also come into force from the same date as the Amendment Act.

3.139 India is the first such country in the world having given a legislative framework to the WHO resolution to promote exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life, as well as continued breastfeeding together with complementary foods for the first two years.

The important amendments in the principal Act are:

- i. Strengthening the existing provisions on publicity and advertisement to cover recent methods of advertising and promotion like electronic transmission and audio and visual transmission.
- ii. Continued breastfeeding “ up to the age of two years” along with complementary food after “six months” (in place of the earlier “four months”) has been incorporated in the definition of “infant food”.
- iii. Continued breastfeeding “up to the age of two years” has been incorporated in the

definition of “Infant Milk Substitutes.”

- iv. To cover recent products, which may attempt to get around the principal Act, “infant foods” have been brought at par with “infant milk substitutes” in so far as advertising, promotion and other regulations are concerned.
- v. Health care workers, pharmacies and drug stores and professional associations of health workers have been brought within the purview of the Act.
- vi. Violations of the Rules made under the Act have also been made punishable.



Other Programmes

4

Other Programmes

Grant-in-aid for Research, Publications and Monitoring

4.1 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the scheme of grant-in-aid for research, publication and monitoring since 1986-87 with the objective to promote (i) research studies for testing the impact and efficacy of existing programmes and services (identify gaps in services and suggest remedial measures for enhancing the impact of programme and services) and on emerging issues in the field of women and child development (ii) Workshops / seminars which help in promoting awareness, discuss the problems and strategies to resolve the problems of women and children and (iii) publications on women and child related topics for wide dissemination of results.

4.2 Priority is given to research projects of an applied nature keeping in view the policy requirements of the Ministry, social problems requiring urgent public interventions and evaluation of the ongoing programmes. During the year under report, funds released to different organizations for new/old projects are detailed in **Annexure XLIII**.

Information and Mass Education Activities

4.3 Media Unit of the Ministry aims to generate awareness in country about issues concerning the development of women and children by giving wide publicity to the policies, programmes

and developmental activities formulated and implemented by the Ministry. During the current financial year 2007-08 budget of Rs.1500.00 lakh (including Rs.150.00 lakh for NER) has been allocated for awareness generation.

4.4 Publicity to inform, educate, and motivate people for bringing about attitudinal changes to achieve social development goals was launched. The focus of the campaign has been to mobilize public opinion on issues pertaining to girl child, the development of children, women's empowerment, early childhood development, nutrition, equal status for women and social evils like child marriage, dowry, trafficking, gender equality, sexual abuse of girl child, exploitation of women and children. Multi-media publicity was given to these issues through release of advertisements in prominent newspapers and magazines, telecast of spots on Doordarshan (DD-I) (National Network Channel) and also broadcast of radio programmes based on social issues through Air India Radio (AIR).

Print Media

4.5 Following advertisements were issued in prominent newspapers in Hindi, English and regional languages across the country:

1. One half-page (colour) advertisement on Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana for Angawadi Workers and Helpers.
2. One quarter page (colour) advertisement on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day.

3. One quarter page (colour) advertisement on the International Family Day.
4. Release of 1/8 page size advertisement for model Rules, 2007 under the Juvenile Justice.
5. Release of 1/8 size advertisement for convention on the Right of the Child (CRC).
6. Half page (colour) advertisement Highlighting the Achievements of this Ministry on 15.8.2007.
7. Half page (colour) advertisement on Rajiv Gandhi Manav Seva Award 2007.
8. Full page (colour) advertisement on the occasion of Universal Children's Day.
9. 12.00 X 4.00 Col. Cm. Size advertisement on 16.11.2007.
10. Half Page (colour) advertisement on the occasion of International Women's Week (3-3-2008).
11. Half Page (colour) advertisement on the occasion of International Women's Day (8-3-2008).

Television

4.6 Telecast of 30 Seconds duration following video spots on Doordarshan National Network during the Cricket World Cup, India-Bangladesh Cricket series and Test matches, and India – England Cricket ODI series 2007 on issues like:

1. Female Foeticide
2. Dowry
3. Falling Female Sex Ratio
4. Domestic Violence
5. Child Marriage

All India Radio

4.7 A 15 minutes duration weekly sponsored radio programme “**Aakash Hamara Hai**” to highlight polices and programmes of the Ministry and to generate awareness on social issues concerning women and children, 4 episode broadcast in Mid April to Mid May 2007 in Hindi, and regional languages from Commercial Broadcasting Service Station of AIR across the country and also from primary stations of AIR in North East Region.

Outdoor Publicity

4.8 To generate awareness among the people and to change their negative mindset, outdoor publicity campaign is launched on issues like Dowry, Rape, Child Sex abuse, female foeticide, child Helpline and sexual harassment through roadside Kiosks, Flex Hoardings at Railway stations, Delhi Metro Rail Station and Public utilities in Delhi and display of social messages in Delhi metro rail.

Quarterly Newsletter

4.9 In order to highlight the polices and development programmes formulated and implemented by this Ministry, a quarterly Newsletter titled “MWCD Newsletter ‘Sampark’” is being brought out regularly.

Innovative Work on Women and Children

4.10 Under the scheme, assistance is given to voluntary organisations working in the field of child and women welfare for innovative projects and activities, which are not covered in the existing schemes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development. An amount of Rs.91.00 lakhs was utilized during the year 2006-07. The revised allocation for the year 2007-08 is Rs. 3.00 crore.

Use of Hindi in official work

4.11 Hindi Section of the Ministry has been mandated to implement Official Language Policy of the Central Government. In pursuance of this policy, efforts were made during the period under report to maximize the use of Hindi in day-to-day official work of the Ministry. The officers and employees of the Ministry have working knowledge of Hindi. Entries in the Service Books were made in Hindi also. Letters received in Hindi were replied to in Hindi. Article 3(3) of the Official Language Act, 1963 is being complied with in the Ministry.

4.12 Copies of the Annual Programme brought out by the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs were circulated to all concerned for compliance. Quarterly Progress Reports received from the offices under the administrative control of this Ministry were reviewed and shortcomings, if any, were brought to their notice for taking appropriate remedial action. To review the progressive use of Hindi in the Ministry as well as in the offices under the administrative control of the Ministry, meetings of the Departmental Official Language Implementation Committee were held in the Ministry and remedial measures to overcome the shortcomings were suggested. The last such meeting was held on 27.11.2007. Hindi Fortnight was celebrated in the Ministry from 14-28 September, 2007. During the period, Noting and Drafting, General Knowledge and Essay Writing competitions were organized. Eight officials have been awarded. Award Scheme to encourage the officials to work in Hindi was implemented during the year and two employees were given cash prizes. Hindi software has been loaded in computers to facilitate working on computers in Hindi. Two offices under the administrative control of the Ministry were inspected during the year to assess the progressive use of Hindi in those offices. Committee of Parliament on

Official Language visited NIPCCD and CSWB on 12.6.2007 and 27.10.2007 respectively and found their work satisfactory. First Meeting of Hindi Advisory Committee was held under the Chairpersonship of MOS (IC), MWCD on 26 December, 2007 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

4.13 In addition to the above items of work relating to the implementation of Official Language policies, the important documents/material translated in Hindi during the period under the report include Annual Report 2006-07, Performance Budget, 2006-07, Material for Parliamentary Standing Committee, material relating to Rajiv Gandhi Manav sewa Puruskar, National Award for Child Welfare, National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement, replies to Parliament questions, Cabinet notes etc.

Information Technology

4.14 National Informatics Centre (NIC) is managing the Computer Centre of the Ministry of Women and Child Development which has a Pentium P-IV Processor based Windows NT Server, a Unix Server and a Local Area Network with facilities like information sharing, electronic mail and Graphical User Interface (GUI) based INTERNET surfing. NIC continued to provide software, hardware and consultancy support to Ministry in developing computer based Management Information Systems. A team of officers of NIC works in close coordination with the officials of the Ministry to maintain existing software and develop new programmes. A brief description of some of the programmes introduced in 2007-08 by the Ministry with the help of NIC is as follows:

(i) File Status Information System in Ministry

4.15 This system monitors important references received in the ministry. Basic details of the reference are entered into the system as soon

as reference is received along with name of the officer to whom the file is marked.

(ii) NGO Grant Monitoring System

- **NGO Dak Diary-** The system tracks all proposals received under various grants-in-aid schemes and gives an on line status of action taken on the proposals. With the help of this system NGO can view their status on website
- **NGO Directory** - Records registration details and other particulars of all voluntary organizations implementing departmental schemes. The software generates a unique code for each NGO based upon the registration number, name and state so as to enable tracking of the performance under various schemes.
- **Sanctioned Project Detail** – Captures all important information including location, amount sanctioned and number of beneficiaries of sanctioned projects under various grant-in-aid schemes.
- **Reports** – Cover Scheme-wise/State-wise Projects, Pending/Rejected Cases, Outstanding Utilization Certificates, Geographical Coverage, Cash flows etc.

(iii) Budget Monitoring System

4.16 Budget Monitoring System was developed and implemented in the Finance wing of the Ministry. It is an online application capturing scheme wise details of funds sanctioned and released.

4.17 **MIS for Online proposal of Loan Monitoring System for RMK** - With the help of this software RMK will be able to receive the application online through NGO. After that RMK will forward these applications to the concerned

Nodal agencies online for the pre-sanction and post sanction appraisal. With the help of this software, Nodal agencies will be able to receive the NGO's applications online and can send their comments online after examination.

4.18 Central Adoption Resource Authority- Designed and Developed the software for monitoring adoption of children in and intra country through the various agencies.

(iv) GIS Mapping of Schemes of the Ministry

4.19 The Ministry commissioned the National Informatics Centre to develop network based GIS application, integrating spatial data up to State, District and Village level and non-spatial data including MWCD data and census. This software maps all sanctioned projects under grants in aid schemes, up to the district level, to give a graphical depiction of regional spread of various schemes and identify areas requiring interventions. For example, the software enables listing of districts where no projects have been sanctioned under any scheme (like Working Women Hostel or Short Stay Homes) and lists all districts where no projects of Women and Child Development have been sanctioned so far. This software will enable a more focused approach in planning for investments under various schemes.

(v) National Resource Centre for Women

4.20 Schemes of various Central, State Government bodies and of Non-Government sector to large masses of population especially through modern IT gadgets is an essential and inevitable proposition. Taking advantages of IT innovations, NRCW portal has been launched by Union Minister of Human Resource Development (HRM) totally on virtual cyber space for its location and access not only in India but across the entire world.

(vi) Intranet Based Integrated Office Automation

4.21 A web based application has been designed and developed for office automation procedures like Personnel Information, Office Orders/ Circulars, Payroll, GPF, Income Tax, Leave Records, Official Forms, etc. The Ministry is updating the relevant data regularly and the employees are using this system to get their Circulars, Pay Slips, GPF Statements, IT Statements, Forms, etc. from this website directly. This system is developed using ASP and MS-SQL Server.

4.22 Management Information System for monitoring the scheme of Integrated Child Development Services has been in operation for more than 10 years. The package has been implemented at a geographically wider area in the country comprising Central, State and District levels. NICNET communication facility has been extensively used for transmission of information from/to District and State Administrations. The following initiatives have been taken during the year:-

- NIC provided assistance to the Parliament Section for regular on line transmission of Parliament Questions to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariat.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development has a website which is maintained by the NIC and updated periodically.
- With the help of NIC, Ministry is running various software like Store Inventory, Payroll and Hardware Maintenance Package very successfully.
- Technical consultancy and guidance to various organizations under the control of the Ministry like National Commission for Women, NIPCCD, RMK and CSWB is provided by NIC.

Annual Plan and Action Plan

4.24 The Plan and Non-Plan outlays for the year 2007-08 were fixed at Rs.5793.00 crore and Rs. 60.00 crore respectively. The revised outlays (Plan & Non-Plan) have also been fixed at the same level. Scheme-wise details are given at **Annexure XXVI**. The Ministry prepared the Annual Action Plan (AAP) for the schemes and activities of the Department, setting out the targets, both financial and physical, for the four quarters of the year. This AAP was monitored on a quarterly basis in the Ministry to review the financial and physical achievements as per the targets fixed at the beginning of the year. The Ministry completed the exercise for the preparation of the Annual Plan 2008-09. The Plan was discussed in the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission allocated an amount of Rs. 7200.00 crores under plan for the Ministry for the year 2008-09, which represented a step up of 24.29% over the outlay of the previous year.

Plan for the North-East Region

4.25 As per the guidelines of the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry has allocated 10% of the Annual Plan outlay for the implementation of its programmes in the seven North-Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura and the State of Sikkim. During the year efforts were made to involve social organisations of North East with the existing support available under various grants-in-aid schemes of the Ministry of Women & Child Development.

Special Component Plan (SCP) for SC and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)

4.26 The schemes and programmes of the Ministry are directly impacting the lives of women and children belonging to the most disadvantaged sections of the society. Most programmes are

located in the areas where the women and children belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC & ST) populations have easy access to the benefits of these services. Although pre-quantification of flow of funds and benefits to SC/ST population is not workable, however, the basic consideration under all the schemes of the Ministry is to ensure that the benefits of the schemes flow to the disadvantaged sections of the SC/ST population, women and children. While selecting the location for the project, preference is given to those areas which are predominately inhabited by vulnerable and weaker sections of the society, i.e. scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and families in absolute poverty.

4.27 The Ministry has been implementing one of the largest area based scheme of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS). This is perhaps the world's largest programme for holistic development of the child. More than 2/3rd of the Ministry's annual budget is earmarked for ICDS. The Annual Plan outlay of the Ministry for 2007-08 is Rs.5293.00 crores (BE) for Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS); Budget provision for ICDS training also includes Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (KSY and NPAG). The scheme is being implemented in backward rural areas, tribal areas and urban slums. The ICDS envisages provision of vital child development services to most vulnerable groups in disadvantaged areas with a focus on:

- a) Areas inhabited pre-dominantly by SCs.
- b) Areas inhabited by tribes particularly backward tribes.

4.28 Of 6284 ICDS projects sanctioned (30.6.2007) in the country, 809 are tribal projects, which are predominantly inhabited by tribes. Even in respect of rural/urban projects, the focus is on coverage of most vulnerable groups including SCs/

STs and other backward castes. As on 30.6.2007, under 5885 operationalised ICDS projects, the outreach of the services is being extended to 736.81 lakh of beneficiaries (pregnant & lactating mother and children below 6 years of age) out of which more than 30% beneficiaries belong to SC & ST population.

4.29 The Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) made the following stipulations under their grant-in-aid rules to encourage voluntary action in tribal areas:

- i) Normally, only such institutions are eligible for grant-in-aid from the Board, which are engaged in Social Welfare activities for a minimum period of three years. This condition is relaxed in the case of institutions located in tribal areas.
- ii) Institutions are normally given assistance under the grant-in-aid programme on an equal matching basis (50% grant from the Board and other 50% raised by the institutions). In regard to the institutions in tribal areas, the Board allows grants up to 75% of the approved expenditure and in certain deserving cases, grants even up to 95%.
- iii) Similarly, under the scheme of Condensed Courses of Education for Adult Women, the institutions are required to make efforts to enroll scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe women for the course. In the case of SC and ST candidates, conditions regarding educational qualifications for admission to the courses are relaxed wherever necessary. Records are kept of the SCs and STs admitted to these courses.

4.30 The scheme of Hostels for Working Women implemented by the Department, provides for seats upto 15% and 7.5% for women belonging

to SC and ST communities, respectively. Under various training, employment and education programmes for women, the Department is implementing the schemes of Support for Training and Employment Programme (STEP) and Setting up of Employment-cum-income Generation Training –cum-production units for Women, under which training is given to women to upgrade skill, knowledge in traditional as well as non-traditional trades. The implementation agencies are directed by the Department to enroll more SC/ST women.

4.31 The schemes of Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) are aimed at improving nutritional status of people in general and of the vulnerable sections of the population including SCs and STs in particular.

Community Food and Nutrition Extension Units (CFNEU) of FNB are organizing training courses in the fields in fruit and vegetable preservations only for SC/ST adolescent girls and women under accelerated programmes for the development of SC/ST community. The major thrust of the programmes of the Board is on the rural and tribal areas.

4.32 Most of the programmes of Ministry, particularly, those for women, are implemented through voluntary organizations. Efforts are made to encourage more and more voluntary organizations to come forth with proposals to start welfare programmes in tribal and backward rural areas by extending special concessions and relaxations under grant-in-aid.



Food and Nutrition Board (FNB)

5

Food and Nutrition Board (FNB)

5.1 The Food and Nutrition Board (FNB), a non-statutory wing of the Ministry of Women & Child Development was transferred from the Ministry of Food on 1st April 1993 as per an order from the Prime Minister of India, in pursuance of the National Nutrition Policy, adopted by the Government of India in 1993, under the aegis of this Ministry. The non-plan infrastructure of the Food and Nutrition Board comprising of a technical wing at the Centre, 4 Regional Head Offices and Quality Control Laboratories at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai and 43 Community Food and Nutrition Extension Units (CFNEUs) located in 29 States / UTs (the details are provided at **Annexure-XXVII**) is engaged in its conventional activities as well as in new initiatives undertaken as follow up of National Nutrition Policy. Some of the important areas of FNB activities are as follows:

- Nutrition Education and Training,
- Training in Nutrition Education for ICDS Functionaries,
- Interfaces with ICDS,
- Training in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables and Nutrition,
- Providing Fruits & Vegetable Processing facilities at CFNEUs,
- Mass Nutrition Awareness Campaigns,
- Development, production and distribution of nutrition education/training material,
- Mass Media Communication on nutrition awareness,
- Development and Promotion of locally available Nutritious Foods,
- Food Analysis and Standardization,
- Follow up action on National Nutrition Policy.

5.2 The Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) of the Ministry strives to improve nutritional status of the people in the country by creating nutritional awareness among them particularly on the nutritional needs of the vulnerable groups comprising of infants, young children, adolescent, pregnant and lactating mothers, making them aware of the consequences of various forms of malnutrition and simple ways to prevent and control various nutritional deficiencies. The Food and Nutrition Board also provides wide range of Nutrition Education & Extension services, with the objectives of building-up a systematic campaign to overcome the difficult barrier of ignorance, prejudice and superstition.

5.3 The importance of nutrition for human resource development, productivity of the people and economic growth of a nation is being increasingly recognized by economists all over the world. Studies reveal that various forms of malnutrition result in reducing GNP of the countries. What is not commonly or fully recognized is the impact of nutritional status on economic development.

5.4 Malnutrition is a complex phenomenon. It is both the cause and effect of poverty, ill health and follows a cyclical, inter-generational pattern. Lack of adequate information on nutritional needs, has been identified as a major factor for the prevailing nutritional situation in the country. The vast problem of child malnutrition is more closely associated with ignorance than economic conditions. Nutrition education and extension has been recognized as one of the long-term sustainable interventions to tackle the problem of malnutrition and to generate awareness, to promote the nutrition status of the community.

Nutrition Education and Training

5.5 Nutrition Education of the people has been regarded since long as a significant tool for the promotion of nutrition among people. Awareness generation on various aspects of nutrition is the most important sustainable strategy to combat the problem of malnutrition. Advocacy and sensitization of policy makers, nutrition orientation of programme managers and capacity building of field functionaries is one of the important activities of the Food and Nutrition Board. Different

activities are carried out for different target groups for disseminating nutrition related information.

5.6 Nutrition Education of the community, one of the prime activities of the Food and Nutrition Board, is undertaken through its 43 Community Food and Nutrition Extension Units (CFNEUs), by organizing nutrition education and demonstration programmes in rural, urban and tribal areas in different States/ UTs of the country. These CFNEUs are equipped with a mobile van, audio visual aids and equipments and are manned by technical personnel to undertake these activities. FNB Headquarters, through its four Regional Offices, provides the technical as well as logistic support for the functioning of these units.

Training in Nutrition Education for ICDS Functionaries

5.7 In order to reach nutrition messages to the community, utilizing the vast network of anganwadi workers in the country, Food and Nutrition Board undertakes capacity building of ICDS personnel by organizing the short term training of these functionaries.



Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha with Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MOS(I/C), MWCD on dais during Exhibition of FNB on Nutrition

5.8 This programme envisages advocacy on nutrition and sensitization of implementing agencies and field functionaries of the ICDS and health department, grassroot level workers and beneficiaries themselves on important issues in nutrition. In this manner, the information on nutrition would thus percolate to the target population like expectant and nursing mothers, adolescent girls and caregivers of infants and children and expand the outreach.

5.9 Training of Trainers (TOT) Programme: Each CFNEU is organizing five days “Training of Trainers” programme for Master Trainers comprising of Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs), Assistant Child Development Project Officers (ACDPOs), Medical Officers, Lady Health Visitors, Senior Supervisors of ICDS etc. who, in turn, act as trainers for the grass-root level functionaries of ICDS, such as Anganwadi Workers and the community at large. The five days training programme covers various issues related to nutrition of infants, young children,

adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, and various forms of malnutrition, like under-nutrition and deficiency of micronutrients such as iron, folic acid, vitamin A and iodine. Each CFNEU organizes one TOT course for 15 master trainers in each quarter of the year.

5.10 Orientation Training Courses (OTCs): The technical staff of each CFNEU organize three Orientation Training Courses (OTC) of two days duration in each quarter of the year. 30 participants comprising grass-root level functionaries from ICDS, Health and NGOs are trained in the field of nutrition during the course.

Interface with ICDS

5.11 The technical officers/officials of the field units of Food and Nutrition Board are associated with ICDS Training, conducted by the Middle Level Training Centers (MLTCs) and Anganwadi Training Centres (AWTCs), as the resource persons in nutrition. The CFNEUs inspect the



TOT Programme by CFNEU, Mumbai

“supplementary nutrition” and “nutrition and health education” components of the ICDS in their areas of operation. The technical staff of CFNEUs during the course of inspection at anganwadi center (AWC) provides technical support to the infrastructure of the AWCs.

Training in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables and Nutrition

5.12 Vegetables and fruits are good sources of micronutrients and of several phytonutrients, which have now been shown to promote health and prevent disease. The importance of vegetables, not just from the point of view of prevention of micronutrient deficiencies, but also from the point of view of prevention of diseases and overall maintenance of health has not as yet been adequately recognized. India has emerged as the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables of the world. But unfortunately due to post-harvest handlings of the crop almost 25% of the produce get wasted.

5.13 The CFNEUs organize one-week training courses in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits & Vegetables and Nutrition for the housewives and adolescent girls for encouraging them to preserve fruits and vegetables during the glut season at household level. This also increases the consumption of fruits and vegetables, which provide much needed micronutrients, as well as skills, which could be useful for income generation. During the training course, methods for preparation of instant weaning/ supplementary foods for infants and young children from the family pot and from roasted cereals, pulses and oilseeds are also taught. Each CFNEU organized one/two training courses per month and trained 30 participants in each batch. A Ready Reckoner on essential of preservation and nutrition is distributed to the trainees on completion of the training.

5.14 Under the Accelerated Programme for Development of SC/ST Community all the CFNEUs are also organizing one week special training courses in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits & Vegetables and Nutrition exclusively for SC/ST adolescent girls and women. A stipend of Rs.100/- is given to each candidate so as to enable her to meet the expenditure on the raw material required for the training purpose.

5.15 Processing facilities to preserve the fruits & vegetables in different forms are also provided to the community at these CFNEUs at very nominal charges. The members of the community can bring the raw material at the unit and get their preserved products prepared under the technical guidance of the staff. The performance of the CFNEUs for 2006-07 and 2007-08 (up to January, 2008) is given at **Annexure XXVIII**.

Regional Consultation Meet on Nutrition

5.16 The role of the State Governments is extremely important in eradicating malnutrition. The first and the foremost requirement is to create nutrition advocacy and sensitization among the policy makers at the State level. Further, technical resource available with Home Science Colleges, Medical Colleges, Training Institutions and established NGOs needs to be utilized in the fight against malnutrition. Networking with all such institutions is, therefore, necessary. The Regional Consultation Meets aim at achieving all these. One Regional Workshop on Child Survival, Nutrition and Health through appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices (IYCF) was organized on 11th April 2007 at Hyderabad for Southern States for highlighting the importance of infant and young child feeding practices.

5.17 The participants of such meets were State Secretaries/Directors of Department of Women & Child Development and Department of Health & Family Welfare, district programme officers of

ICDS, FNB officials from the State/region and representatives of National Institutions, Home Science and Medical Colleges, NGOs, UNICEF, CARE and the Micro Nutrient Initiative (MNI) etc.

Mass Nutrition Awareness Campaigns

5.18 Nationwide celebration of events like World Breast Feeding Week (1-7 August) National Nutrition Week (1-7 September), World Food Day (16th October), Global Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) Prevention Day (21st October), Universal Children's Day (14th November), International Women's Day (8th March) etc. were organized on specific themes, with the active cooperation of respective State Governments, educational institutions, NGOs and media. Workshops, special nutrition education programmes, telecast / broadcast of video and audio spots on nutrition, coverage of events through All India Radio, Doordarshan and Press were some of the events conducted during the celebration period.

Exhibitions

5.19 Dissemination of nutrition information to the masses was also undertaken by organizing exhibitions on nutrition in the prestigious melas / fairs. During the year 2007-08 till November, 2007, the field units of the FNB organized following exhibitions on nutrition at different events/occasions:

- Food and Technology Expo – 2007 Exhibition, 22nd to 24th August 2007 at Pragati Madan, New Delhi.
- Swasthya Mela at Lalganj Degree College, Raibareilly (UP) w.e.f. 18th to 20th October 2007. The event was inaugurated by Mrs Sonia Gandhi, Hon'ble Member of Parliament.
- MTNL Perfect Health Mela, at Sanjay Lake Park, New Delhi w.e.f. 27th October 2007 to 7th November 2007.
- An exhibition on Nutrition was put up in Pragati Madan, New Delhi during the Vatsalya Mela w.e.f. 14th to 27th November 2007. Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Hon'ble Minister of State (IC), Ministry of Women and Child Development inaugurated the Exhibition. Noted Members of Parliament and eminent public figures alongwith masses visited the Exhibition and appreciated the display of exhibition.
- CFNEU, Chandigarh, Ludhiana, Hyderabad and Kolkata participated in Bharat Nirman Utsava organized by the Press Information Bureau, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in August, 2007 and placed exhibitions on Nutrition at different places for mass awareness.

Advertisement Campaign

5.20 A systematic media campaign has been launched by publishing the advertisement with nutrition messages in popular national dailies in Hindi, English, Urdu and regional languages. These are as follows:

- Two half-page advertisements on Nutrition during the World Breastfeeding Week (1st & 7th August 2007), highlighting the importance of breastfeeding and complimentary feeding.
- Three half-page advertisements during National Nutrition Week (1st, 4th and 7th September 2007) giving critical information on Nutrition.
- One half-page advertisement on World Food Day (16th October 2007) highlighting the importance of millets/coarse grains, pulses, fruits and vegetables



Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Hon'ble MOS(I/C) at FNB Stall for Nutritious Recipes at Vatsalya Mela in Delhi (14-27 November, 2007)

- One half-page advertisement on Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day (21st October 2007), highlighting the importance of iodine for physical, mental development.

Media Campaign through AIR/Doordarshan

- Telecast of 3 spots on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) through Doordarshan on prime and regional news channels for 7 days i.e. from 1st to 7th August 2007, in Hindi and other regional languages.
- Telecast of 3 spots on micronutrients during National Nutrition Week 2007 from 1st to 7th September 2007.
- Broadcast of 3 audio spots on IYCF and 3 audio spots on micronutrients through All India Radio w.e.f. 6th July to 7th August 2007 and 1st to 30th September 2007 respectively.

Development, production and distribution of nutrition education/training material

- The IYCF Guidelines and Ready Reckoner on Fruit & Vegetable Preservation & Nutrition in regional languages are reprinted and distributed.
- A seven page wall calendar for the year 2008 on the theme “Nutrition”, carrying nutrition Messages, particularly for infants, children, adolescents and women is in process of printing and distribution to the State Governments, National Institutions, Medical Colleges, Home Science Colleges, Social Organizations, AWCs, hospitals etc.
- The Food and Nutrition Board has also developed a number of audio-video software for conducting mass nutrition awareness campaign: Two audio and two video spots on nutrition related to girl child were developed during the year 2007-2008.

Celebrations

World Breastfeeding Week

5.21 The World BreastFeeding Week was observed from 1st to 7th August 2007 on the global theme of **“Breastfeeding: The 1st Hour”** by all the CFNEUs, throughout the country. The FNB headquarter supported the celebration by providing background information and necessary guidance to all the field units and Regional Offices with a view to disseminate the importance of breast-feeding. State level workshops in 29 States, orientation training on infant and young child feeding, awareness generation camps and community meetings were organized by the FNB field infrastructure. Print Media, All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan covered programmes throughout the country. Three audio & video spots on infant and young child feeding were broadcasted/telecasted during the Week from primary channels of AIR, Commercial Broadcasting Station (CBS), FM channels and Doordarshan.

National Nutrition Week

5.22 National Nutrition Week was observed throughout the country from 1st to 7th September 2007 on the theme **“Nutrition Promotion for a Stronger Nation”**. All the CFNEUs stationed in 29 State / UT Capitals organized one day State level Workshops, involving representatives of the State Governments, other Institutions and NGOs, actively functioning in the field of Nutrition, with a view to advocate the causes of micronutrient malnutrition and to develop the field strategies for interventions.

5.23 Three audio & video spots on Vitamin-A, Anaemia and Iodine were broadcast / telecast during the National Nutrition Week from primary channels of AIR, CBS stations, FM channels and Doordarshan. Chief Secretaries of various States were requested to mobilize State machinery to focus on the theme of National Nutrition Week enclosing a background note on the theme.

World Food Day

5.24 Food and Nutrition Board actively collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture in organizing the World Food Day on 16th October, 2007 which is Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) foundation day also on the theme **“The Right to Food”**. One half page colour advertisement on nutrition was published in Hindi, English and regional languages newspapers throughout the country. The CFNEUs celebrated the event by organizing seminars, workshops, exhibitions and field nutrition programmes with the help of audio/ visual aids.

Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) Prevention Day

5.25 The Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day was observed on 21st October 2007. All the field units of FNB organized special programmes to intensify awareness generation on consequences of IDD and its prevention. One half page colour advertisement on importance of Iodine and Iodized Salt was published in Hindi, English and regional languages newspapers throughout the country

Universal Children's Day

5.26 The Universal Children's Day was celebrated by the field infrastructure of FNB in the country on 14th November 2007. The field units organized essay, drawing, slogan writing, recipe competitions, healthy baby show, and other programmes during the celebration period, highlighting the importance of nutrition in the life of young and youth.

Development and Promotion of locally available Nutritious Foods

5.27 Popularizing of low cost nutritious foods from locally available raw material is one of the

Global Iodine Deficiency Dis
Feeding Week

1-7 August, 2007

1-7 August, 2007

Iodine Deficiency Disorder Day held

சத்துணவு பறிநூள் பறிந்தி முகாம்

மேலி நிதிக்கு ரூ. 20/-
தொகுப்பு அடங்கியது மட்டு
முன்பு உபயோகப்படுத்த
வெள்ளை நிறத்தில்
இருக்க வேண்டும்.

அம். விடுபட்டிருக்கும் சான்ற
பேரில், கடிதங்கள், அஞ்சல்
மட்டும் அனுப்ப வேண்டாம்.
அறிவிப்பு.

Call upon all...

Call upon all men and women
doctors and nurses
and managers to
provide

For Balanced Diet Grow & C
Pulses, Vegetables & Fruits

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Course Grains,
Nutrition Security for Every One

Training on health & nutrition at Namchi hospital

Staff Reporter

Monitoring and is

mandates to the Food and Nutrition Board. The field units of FNB have been developing low cost nutritious recipes from locally available foods keeping in view the requirements of infants and pre-school children and propagating the same through ongoing nutrition education and extension programmes in rural, urban slums and tribal areas as well as during training programmes. A recipe book of low cost nutritious recipes is under print.

Food Analysis and Standardization

5.28 Food and Nutrition Board has four Quality Control Laboratories (QCL) at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, which analyze various supplementary foods, consumed in feeding programmes under ICDS scheme. The samples are received from the State Governments as well as field units of FNB, collected by them during the course of regular inspection of AWCs. The QCLs of FNB are also analyzing the processed fruits and vegetables products under the regulation of quality control of these products for domestic consumption as well as for export. These samples are received from Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

5.29 FNB rendered technical expertise on food quality and standardization of various committees of Department of Health, including Codex and BIS. FNB organized two Shadow Committee Meetings of Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU), under the chairpersonship of Joint Secretary (Nutrition) in the Ministry and prepared India's viewpoints on the agenda items for 29th Session of CCNFSDU meeting, which was held from 11th November –16th November, 2007 in Germany.

5.30 The Indian Delegation headed by Ms. Pradeep Bolina, Joint Secretary (Nutrition) in the Ministry and the Chairperson of National

Shadow Committee on CCNFSDU, attended the 29th Session of CCNFSDU at Bad Neuenahr – Ahrweiler, Germany and presented a technical paper prepared by the FNB and duly approved by the Shadow Committee of Codex Committee on CCNFSDU for adoption of a new Standard for “Processed Cereal Based Foods for Underweight Infants and Young Children” which would be useful not only for children in India but for the entire developing world. The Codex world forum has accepted the demand of India for a new work for framing standards on Processed Cereal Based Foods for Underweight Infants and Young Children.

5.31 India has been advised to prepare a revised technical paper for consideration of 30th Session of Codex Committee on CCNFSDU. 14 countries and NGOs, viz. Australia, Brazil, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, South Africa, Thailand, Consumer International (CI), International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN), International Special Dietary Food Industries (ISDI) and National Health Federation (NHF) have supported India's stand and volunteered to join India in the preparation of said technical paper. Beside this, FNB also provided advice to the Chief Director of Purchase (Army), for quality aspects for improving the food standards for army purchases.



*Nutrition Education Demonstration Programme
By CFNEU Chandigarh in Rural Areas*



Gender Budgeting

6

Gender Budgeting

6.1 The goals of human development are closely intertwined with development and empowerment of women, who, as an independent group constitute about 496 million (2001 Census) representing 48 percent of the total population of

Box 1—Gender and Sex

Gender is culturally and socially constructed roles, responsibilities, privileges, relations and expectations of women and men, boys and girls and changes with time and from place to place

Sex refers to biological differences between the male and female of the species. It remains unchanged.

India. They not only constitute valuable human resources of the country but their development in the socio economic arena sets pace for sustainable growth of the economy.

6.2 However, even after 60 years of Independence, a significant number of women face disparities in access and control over resources. These disparities get reflected in important social development indicators such as health, nutrition, literacy, educational attainments, skill levels, occupational status etc. In addition, there are a number of gender specific barriers that prevent women from gaining access to their rightful share in the flow of public goods and services.

6.3 Unless these gender requirements and their felt needs are incorporated and mainstreamed in the planning and development process of the country, it is likely that the benefits of economic growth are likely to completely bypass a significant section

Box 2—Gender Perspective of a Common Person

A Woman's Worth....

During a workshop in Rajasthan, a man was asked whether his wife worked. He said **she was useless** and did nothing. She woke up at 4 am every morning; milked the cow; collected firewood, water etc. and cooked for family, sent her children to school, took the animals for grazing; cut fodder; looked after the elders in the family; cleaned the dishes and finally went to bed after the household had retired.

of the country's population which does not augur well for the future growth of the economy.

What is gender budgeting—a definition

6.4 Gender Budgeting is understood as a dissection of the Government budget to establish its gender-differential impacts and to translate gender commitments into budgetary commitments. Thus Gender Budgeting: -

- Looks at Government budget from a gender perspective to assess how it addresses the needs of women in all sectors
- It does not seek to create a separate budget but to provide affirmative action to address the specific needs of women
- Gender responsive budgeting initiatives provide a way for assessing the impact of government revenue and expenditure on women.

Box 3—Policy Commitments for Women

Constitutional Provisions

The commitment to gender equity is well entrenched at the highest policy making level- the Constitution of India. A few important provisions for women are:

- Article 14 – Equal Rights and Opportunities in Political Economic and Social Spheres
- Article 15 – Prohibits discrimination on grounds of sex
- Article 15(3) – Enables affirmative discrimination in favour of women
- Article 39 – Equal means of livelihood and equal pay for equal work
- Article 42 – Just and Humane conditions of work and maternity relief
- Article 51(A)(e) – Fundamental Duty to renounce practices, derogatory to dignity of women

The **National Policy for Empowerment of Women 2001** envisaged introduction of a gender perspective in the budgeting process as a operational strategy.

These provisions are effected and supplemented by the legal framework. A few laws and legislations are:

Women specific Legislations

- Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956
- The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961
- The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986
- The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987
- Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

Economic

- Factories Act, 1948
- Minimum Wages Act, 1948
- Equal Remuneration Act, 1976
- The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948,
- The Plantation Labour Act, 1951
- The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act 1976 Protection
- Relevant provisions of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973
- Special provisions under IPC
- The Legal Practitioners (Women) Act, 1923
- The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994.

Social

- Family Courts Act, 1984
- The Indian Succession Act, 1925
- The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971
- Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006
- The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955
- The Hindu Succession Act, 1956 (& amended in 2005)
- The Indian Divorce Act, 1969

6.5 Gender Budgeting lends itself to strengthening administrative processes and actions to achieve the targets for improvement in the position of women. It not only entails a look at allocation of resources for women but goes beyond to cover tracking the utilization of allocated resources, impact analysis and beneficiary incidence analysis of public expenditure and policy from a gender perspective

6.6 Hence gender budgeting is not an accounting exercise as commonly perceived and understood. It encompasses incorporating a gender perspective and sensitiveness at all levels and stages of the

Box 4—What technology means for Women:

- A bus designed without seats to carry vegetables, goats etc.
- Cotton cloth designed for different uses- Cradle, Carry seeds, fodder etc.
- Low cost disposable sanitary napkins.
- Women friendly protective shoes in salt brines.

Department of Science and Technology

Box 5 —Gender Budgeting and Five Year Plan

The plan documents have over the years reflected the evolving trends in gender matters. Formal earmarking of funds for women began with the Women’s Component Plan. However, gender sensitivity in allocation of resources starts with the Seventh Plan

- The Seventh Plan introduced the concept of monitoring of 27 beneficiary oriented schemes for women by DWCD. The exercise continues and the number of schemes covered is being expanded.
- The Eighth Plan (1992-97) highlighted for the first time a gender perspective and the need to ensure a definite flow of funds from the general developmental sectors to women. The Plan document made an express statement that “...the benefits to development from different sectors should not bypass women and special programmes on women should complement the general development programmes. The later, in turn, should reflect great gender sensitivity”.
- The Ninth Plan (1997-2002) adopted the ‘Women’s Component Plan’ as one of the major strategies and directed both the Central and State Governments to ensure “not less than 30 per cent of the funds/benefits are earmarked in all the women’s related sectors. Special vigil advocated on the flow of the earmarked funds/benefits through an effective mechanism to ensure that the proposed strategy brings forth a holistic approach towards empowering women.
- The Tenth Plan reinforces commitment to gender budgeting to establish its gender-differential impact and to translate gender commitments into budgetary commitments. It states “---the Tenth plan will continue the process of dissecting the Government budget to establish its gender –differential impact and to translate gender commitments into budgetary commitments. ----the Tenth Plan will initiate immediate action in tying up these two effective concepts of Women Component Plan and Gender Budgeting to play a complementary role to each other , and thus ensure both preventive and post facto action in enabling women to receive their rightful share from all the women – related general development sectors.”
- The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Plan clearly states’ ‘gender equity requires adequate provisions to be made in policies and schemes across Ministries and Departments . It also entails strict adherence to gender budgeting across the board’

developmental planning, programs, schemes, processes and implementation. An important outcome of the application of Gender budgeting is that it paves the way for gender mainstreaming in the developmental process and in understanding how the needs of women can be addressed in not only “traditional” areas like agriculture, health, education but also in so called ‘gender neutral’ sectors like Power, Defence, Chemicals, Bio technology, Commerce, Information Technology, etc. where, in the first instance, the gender implications do not seem apparent.

Distinction between Budgeting and Budget

6.7 Gender Budgeting is a process that entails maintaining a gender perspective at various stages like programme/policy formulation, assessment of needs of target groups, review of extant policies and guidelines, allocation of resources, implementation of programmes, impact assessment, reprioritization of resources and so on. A gender sensitive budget is the culmination of this process.

Why is Gender mainstreaming important

6.8 The bulk of the public expenditure and policy concerns lie in ‘gender neutral’ sectors like power, defence, petroleum, transport etc and the implications for women in these sectors are not recognized or identified. It is increasingly being felt that unless gender concerns are also

mainstreamed in these sectors, public expenditure will always be skewed disadvantageously towards women. Hence the imperative need for gender mainstreaming as natural outcome of gender budgeting.

6.9 The importance of Gender Budgeting has been stressed time and again in different forums. To provide further impetus to this objective, the Finance Minister in 2004-05 had mandated the setting up of Gender Budgeting Cells in all Ministries/ Departments and highlighted the perceived need for budget data to be presented in a manner that brought out the gender sensitiveness of the budgetary allocations. This was followed by a more emphatic commitment in the Budget speech of 2005-06, wherein the Gender budgetary allocations were reflected in a two-way classified Gender Budgeting Statement in the Union Budget—The first Statement indicated those Ministries/Departments which identified allocation of 100% for Schemes/Programmes flowing to women and second Statement reflecting allocation of 30% and above but below 100% for Schemes/ Programmes for women. In the year 2005-06, Gender Budget Allocation for 9 Ministries/

Box 6—Income generation for Tsunami Victims

Crab and lobster tracking technology was developed for elderly and widowed fisherwomen where the cages are left in the water. It ensured good catch and income went up from Rs. 300 to Rs. 2000 over a period of time.

Department of Earth Sciences

Box 7—There is no Sector which is Gender Neutral

Department of Space

- Village Resource Centre broadcasts through space on malnutrition, health etc.
- EDUSAT and GRAMSAT taking information and education to remote areas.

Department of Commerce

- Gender Implications for Women in SEZ projects and WTO agreements.

Department of Atomic Energy

- Nuclear Medicine for treatment of thyroid, uterine, ovarian cancer etc
- Energy requirements for women

Box 8—CHARTER OF GENDER BUDGET CELLS

Composition of Gender Budget Cells

The Gender Budget Cell should comprise a cohesive group of senior/ middle level officers from the Plan, Policy, Coordination, Budget and Accounts Division of the Ministry concerned. This group should be headed by an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary. The functions and working of the GRB may be reviewed at least once a quarter at the level of Secretary/ Additional Secretary of the Department.

Functions of Gender Budget Cells

The GBC may set for itself, specific quarterly / half yearly/ annual targets to be achieved in terms of the following suggested areas of work.

- (1) Identification of a minimum of 3 and maximum of 6 largest programmes (in terms of budget allocation) implementation by the Ministry and the major Sub –Programmes thereunder, with a view to conducting an analysis of the gender issues addressed by them.
 - This is to be facilitated by describing the current situation with respect to the Sub-Programme (using disaggregated data in terms of beneficiaries as much as possible) and describing the activities for achieving the given output.
 - Output indicators may be identified for measurement against performance in the coming year.
 - Activities targeted at improving the situation of women under these programmes may be highlighted. In this regard, an assessment may be made of the extent to which sectoral policies address the situation of women, whether budget allocation are adequate to implement the gender responsive policy; monitoring whether the money was actually spent as planned, what was delivered and to whom; and whether the policy as implemented changed the situation described, in the direction of promoting/ achieving greater gender equality.
 - Results of this analysis may be included as an annex titled “Gender Responsive Budgeting Initiative” in the Ministry’s Outcome/ Performance Budget for the year.
 - GBCs of such Ministries/ Departments which have identified programmes where 100% of the budgetary allocation for the scheme is earmarked to benefit women, may undertake a similar analysis as described above. Results of this analysis may also be included in the Ministry’s Department’s Outcome/ Performance budget for the year.
- (2) Conducting / Commissioning Performance audit (at the field level wherever possible) for reviewing the actual physical/ financial targets of the programme, the constraints if any, in implementation, the need for strengthening delivery systems, infrastructure/ capacity building etc.
- (3) Organizing meetings/ discussions/ consultations with GBCs of related departments within the Ministry, field level organization/ civil society groups/ NGOs working in the sector for exchanging ideas and getting feedback on the efficacy of sectoral policies and programmes.
- (4) Suggesting further policy interventions based on findings of the above.
- (5) Participating in and organizing Training/ Sensitization/ Capacity Building workshops for officials, concerned with formulation of policy/ programme implementation & budget and accounts at the Ministerial level and also in the implementing agencies/ attached/ subordinate offices and organizations under the administrative control of the Ministry.
- (6) Apparently “gender neutral” programmes are not necessarily gender neutral in the impact they have, when seen through gender lens. Hence, in sectors like Defence, Power, Telecom, Communications, Transport and Industry, etc. GBCs may undertake an exercise to identify the possibility of undertaking initiatives/ special measures to facilitate/ improve access to services for women and their active participation in the decision making process at various levels.
- (7) Disseminate best practices followed by those Divisions of the Department/ Ministry implementing schemes, which have done good work in analyzing the schemes/ programmes from gender perspective which have brought about changes in policy/ operational guidelines.
- (8) Prepare a Chapter on Gender perspective related to the Sector / Service covered by the Ministry and the impact of the existing policies/ programmes and resources employed in meeting the specific needs of women for reflection in the Ministry’s Outcome/ Performance Budget.

Box 9—Mission statement- “Budgeting for Gender Equity”

Broad framework of activities

- ❖ ***Quantification of allocation of resources for women in the Union, States and Local Administration budgets and expenditure thereof.***
 - ❑ Refining and standardizing methodology and development of tools.
 - ❑ Trend Analysis of change in pattern, shift in priorities in allocation across clusters of services etc
 - ❑ Variations in allocation of resources and actual expenditure
 - ❑ Adherence to physical targets
- ❖ ***Gender Audit of policies of the Government- monetary, fiscal, trade etc. at the Centre and State levels***
 - ❑ Research and micro studies to guide macro policies like credit policy, taxes etc., Identification of gender impact of policies/interventions viewed as gender neutral
 - ❑ Micro studies to identify need for affirmative action in favour of women towards correcting gender imbalances
- ❖ ***Impact assessment of various schemes in the Union and State budgets***
- ❖ ***Micro studies on incidence of benefits***
- ❖ ***Analysis of cost of delivery of services Analyzing programmes, strategies, interventions and policy initiatives from the perspective of their impact on status of women as reflected in important Macro Indicators like literacy, MMR, participation in work force***
 - ❑ E.g.- analysis of substance and content of various interventions directed at health of women and correlate the same with indicator like MMR to establish need for corrective action in formulation of scheme/ approach.
- ❖ ***Institutionalizing the generation and collection of gender dis-aggregated data***
 - ❑ Developing MIS for feed back from implementing agencies
 - ❑ Inclusion of new parameters in data collection in Census and surveys by NSO, CSO etc. Consultations and Capacity building
 - ❑ Collation of research and exchange of best practices
 - ❑ Developing methodologies and tools for dissemination
 - ❑ Forums and Partnerships amongst experts and stakeholders.
- ❖ ***Review of decision making processes to establish gender equity in participation-*** review of extant participation of women in decision making processes and to establish processes and models aimed at gender equity in decision making and greater participation of women.
- ❖ ***Formulation and reflection of satellite accounts*** to capture the contribution of women to the economy by way of their activities in areas that go unreported like care economy, unpaid work in rearing domestic animals etc.

Departments and 10 demand for grants was estimated at about 4.77% of the total Public Sector outlay. The 2006-07 Budget revealed an estimated allocation of 3.8% for women from 18 Ministries/Departments and 33 Demand for grants. The reason why there was an apparent fall in the Gender budget allocation between 2005-06 and 2006-07 was on account of a more accurate reflection of the actual amounts flowing to women through Programmes and Schemes. During the year 2007-08, an estimated 4.6% of the Public Sector outlay was identified as Gender Budget from 27 Ministries/Departments and 33 Demand for grants. The Ministry of Finance in consultation with the Ministry of Women and Child Development has issued a Gender Budget Charter on March, 2007

“Budgeting for Gender Equity” - A Mission Statement

6.10 The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) as the nodal agency for Gender Budgeting has been undertaking several initiatives for empowerment of women. In this context the Ministry has honed Gender Budgeting as a tool for achieving the goals and targets enshrined for women in our Constitution and Plans and Policies. In 2004-05 the Ministry adopted ***“Budgeting for Gender Equity”*** as a Mission Statement. A ***Strategic Framework of Activities*** to implement this mission was also framed and disseminated across all Departments of Government of India.

The main essence of the Mission Statement is to reinforce that

- Gender Budgeting is a process that entails maintaining a gender perspective at various stages –planning, policy, programs and schemes, assessment of needs of the target groups, allocation of resources,

implementation, impact assessment, outcome assessment, and reprioritization of policy/program objectives and allocations bringing about gender mainstreaming into the development process

- Gender Budgeting translates stated gender commitments into budgetary commitments

Box-10—The Sunderbans experience: Using technology to assist rural women

Sunderbans, a vast mangrove delta in West Bengal, has many creeks, streams and rivers. The Department of Science and Technology (DST) supported a project, which identified ten varieties of banana suitable for the region. The goal of the project involves womenfolk in nurturing the micro-propagated plantlets of banana so that these could be source of income for them. Potential female entrepreneurs were selected in each *Gram Panchayat* (local governance body) and those selected were trained to take care of the plantlets at the primary and secondary hardening stage.

- Thus gender sensitive budgets is a culmination of the gender budgeting process

Critical activities constituting the gender budgeting exercise include

- a) Addressing gap between policy commitment and allocation for women through adequate resource allocation and gender sensitive programme formulation and implementation
- b) Mainstreaming gender concerns in public expenditure and policy
- c) Gender audit of public expenditure, programme implementation and policies

Box 11—Checklist I for Gender Specific Expenditure

Checklist I for Gender Specific Expenditure

Conventionally, gender budget analysis, by way of isolation of women related expenditure, has been carried out for **Ministries/Departments like Health and Family Welfare, Rural Development, Human Resource Development, Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation, Youth and Sports Affairs, Labour, Social Justice and Empowerment, Tribal Affairs, Drinking Water, Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries, Science and Technology, Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Textiles and Agriculture.**

Suggested steps that may be undertaken by these various Ministries/Departments who are running programmes/schemes of a gender specific nature i.e. where the targeted beneficiaries are primarily women are as follows:

Planning and Budgeting

- i. **List of schemes and programmes** which are **gender specific**
- ii. Briefly indicating **activities undertaken** under the programme for women.
- iii. Indicating expected **output indicators** like number of women beneficiaries, increase in employment of women, post project increase in resources/income/skills etc.
- iv. **Quantifying allocation of resources** in annual budget and physical targets thereof.
- v. Assessing adequacy of resource allocation in terms of population of targeted beneficiaries that need the concerned schematic intervention, the trend of past expenditure etc.

Performance Audit

- vi. Reviewing actual performance- physical and financial vis a vis the annual targets and **identifying constraints** in achieving targets (like need for strengthening delivery infrastructure, capacity building etc.
- vii. Carrying out **reality check- Evaluation of programme intervention**, incidence of benefit, identifying impact indicators like comparative status of women before and after the programme etc
- viii. Compiling a trend analysis of expenditure and output indicators and impact indicators.

Future Planning and Corrective Action

- ix. **Addressing constraints** identified from step (vi) above.
- x. Establishing requirement of Resources in terms of population of targeted beneficiaries/ magnitude of perceived problems like IMR, MMR, literacy ratio etc.
- xi. Reviewing **adequacy of resources** available – financial and physical like trained manpower etc
- xii. Planning for **modification in policies and/or programmes/schemes** based on results of review.

Tools of Gender Budgeting

6.11 The tools of Gender budgeting that have been disseminated by the MWCD in Workshops/Orientations, are indicated below:

a) **Guidelines for Gender Sensitive Review of Public Expenditure and Policy**

6.12 Specific guidelines have been formulated by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in the form of *Checklists I and II* (Box 11 and Box 12). *Checklist I* is for programmes that are beneficiary oriented and consciously target

women. *Checklist II* covers mainstream sectors. These guidelines help in reviewing Public expenditure and policy from a gender perspective to enable identification of constraints in outreach of programmes and policies to cover women and to enable suitable corrective action.

b) **Gender Based Profile of Public Expenditure**

6.13 Preparation of the Gender Based profile (Box 13) facilitates review of all schemes and public expenditure from a gender perspective and isolating the gender component by way of expenditure and physical targets. The profile would

Box 12 —Checklist II for Mainstream Sectors

Mainstream sectors like **Defence, Power, Telecom, Communications, Transport, Industry, Commerce** etc. may consider adopting the following checklist to determine the gender impact of their expenditure.

- i. **List of all programmes** entailing public expenditure with a brief description of activities entailed.
- ii. Identifying target group of beneficiaries/users.
- iii. **Establishing whether users/beneficiaries are** being categorized by sex (**male/female**) at present and, if not to, what extent would it be feasible.
- iv. Identify possibility of undertaking **special measures** to facilitate **access of services for women**—either through affirmative action like quotas, priority lists etc. or through expansion of services that are women specific like all women police stations, women’s special buses etc.
- v. Analysing the **employment pattern** in rendering of these services/programmes from a gender perspective and examining **avenues to enhance women’s recruitment**.
- vi. Focus on **special initiatives** to promote **participation of women** either in employment force or as users.
- vii. Indicating the extent to which **women are engaged in decision-making** processes at various levels within the sector and in the organizations and initiating action to correct gender biases and imbalances.

These exercises can be commenced by each Ministry/Department of the Government, to start with, for a few select programmes/schemes which may be selected either in terms of their perceived gender impact, or the selection can be based on considerations of heaviest budget allocation. Based on the result of carrying out the above steps, the gender budgeting exercise may be institutionalized in the manner detailed in checklist I

Box 13- Gender based profile of Public Expenditure

Programme	Expected Outcome/ Objective	Gender Component of Programme/ Sub programme	Total Public Expenditure (Rs)		Public Expenditure on women/girls (Rs)		Gender Disaggregated Beneficiaries (extent of benefits to women)	Remarks
		By Definition or practice	GOI	State	GOI	State	Physical targets and performance i.e. number of female beneficiaries etc.	
1.								
2.								

give a clear situational analysis of constraints like non-availability of Gender disaggregated data, need to determine reasons for non-adherence to targeted expenditure on women etc. Trend of the gender component, allocation and expenditure, is indicative of extent to which budgeting is gender responsive.

c) Beneficiary Needs Assessment

6.14 Establishing requirements from the point of view of women and reviewing effectiveness of public expenditure accordingly.

d) Impact Analysis through monitoring, evaluation and field level surveys

6.15 Establishing actual impact of public expenditure and policies from gender perspective, through monitoring, evaluation and field level surveys. This would include tracking flow of intended benefits. Results of impact analysis of programmes from a gender perspective help identify barriers in access to public services/expenditure by women, enable gender sensitive review of policy & programme design, change in quantum of allocation and implementation guidelines etc.

e) Participative Budgeting

6.16 Involvement of women in decision-making is seen as a key to success of all gender budgeting initiatives. Women have to be treated as equal partners in decision-making and implementation rather than as beneficiaries. Thus Gender Budgeting advocates capacity-building of elected women representatives, women self-help-groups etc and their active involvement in decision making and budgeting at the field level.

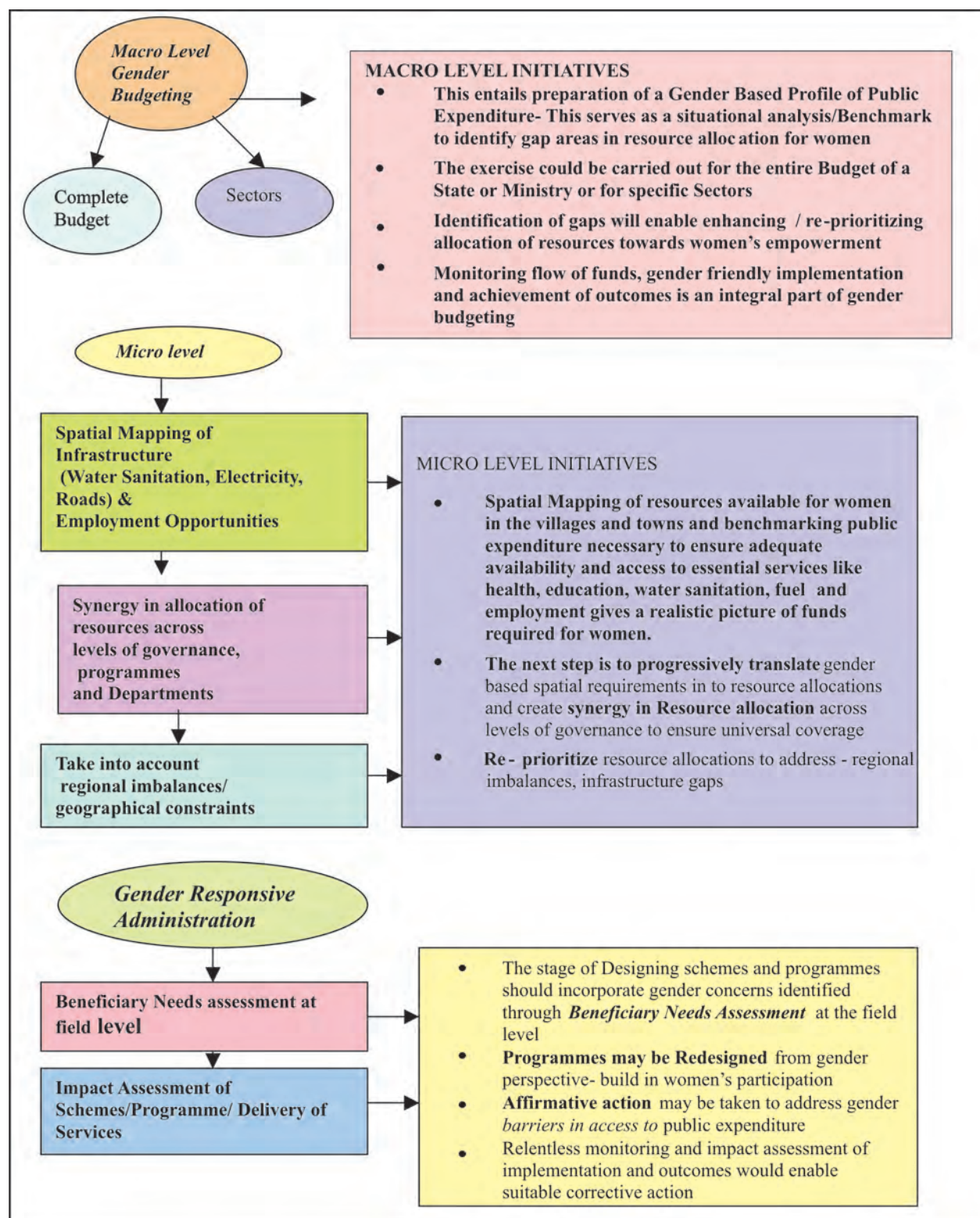
f) Spatial Mapping- Macro level planning for micro level needs

6.17 Women's empowerment is a holistic concept which entails adequate resource allocation in all areas including health, education, water sanitation and nutrition, sustained employment, access to credit and asset ownership, skills, research and design technology and political participation. Further, regional imbalances have to be corrected. For this, it is necessary to focus on specific needs of women residing in villages and towns. Spatial mapping of social infrastructure and access to employment opportunities for women, would clearly highlight resources available, overall gaps, resource allocation required based on size of population and yardsticks for availability of facilities etc. so that universalization of basic

socio-economic infrastructure is achieved progressively, and allocations and interventions are more focused. These spatial maps would then form the basis for concomitant regional plans and projections on funds for gender requirements, with maximum local participation. This would also

enable taking into account regional imbalances within States and districts.

6.18 The importance of Gender Budgeting (GB) has been emphasized in the Indian Budgets. The Finance Minister, Government of India in his



budget speech of 2004-05 perceived the need for budget data to be presented in a manner that brought out the gender sensitiveness of the budgetary allocations and had mandated the setting up of Gender Budgeting Cells (GBC) in all Ministries/Departments for this purpose. In the Budget Speech of 2007-08 it was recognized that there is growing awareness of gender sensitivities of budgetary allocations. A Gender

Box-14 Campaign against Female Foeticide

Over 40,000 NCC youth throughout the country took pledge on 25th November 2007 to fight against Female Foeticide' The MWCD in collaboration with UNFPA is also training NCC Directorates for taking the social cause of preventing female foeticide further.

Ministry of Defence

Budget Charter delineating the responsibilities of GBCs has also been circulated by the Ministry of Finance.

Initiatives of The Ministry For Gender Budgeting

1. Setting up of Gender Budgeting Cells (GBCs)

6.19 The Ministry has been continuously and actively pursuing with Ministries for setting up of

Gender Budgeting (GB) cell. So far, 52 Ministries/ Departments have set up these cells. The Box 15 indicates the list of Ministries and Departments that have set up Gender Budgeting cells. These cells serve as focal points for coordinating Gender Budgeting initiatives both intra and inter ministerial. The role envisaged for these cells includes:

- Act as a nodal agency for all gender responsive budgeting initiatives.
- Pilot action on gender sensitive review of public expenditure and policies (Expenditure/Revenue/Policies/Legislation etc.) as per Checklist I and II
- Guide and undertake collection of gender disaggregated data- for target group of beneficiaries covered under expenditure, revenue raising/ policy/ legislation
- Guide Gender Budgeting initiatives within Departments as well as in field units responsible for implementing government programmes.
- Conduct gender based impact analysis, beneficiary needs assessment and beneficiary incidence analysis to
 - ❖ Establish effectiveness of public expenditure
 - ❖ Identify scope for re-prioritization of public expenditure

Box 15—Gender Budgeting (GB) Cells set up by Ministries/Departments

S No.	GB Cells set-up by Ministries/Departments
1.	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
2.	Department of Biotechnology
3.	Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals
4.	Department of Civil Aviation
5.	Department of Coal
6.	Department of Commerce
7.	Ministry of Culture
8.	Department of Consumer Affairs

9.	Department of Development of North-Eastern Region
10.	Department of Drinking Water Supply
11.	Ministry of External Affairs
12.	Department of Elementary Education & Literacy
13.	Ministry of Environment and Forests
14.	Department of Family Welfare
15.	Department of Fertilizers
16.	Department of Food & Public Distribution
17.	Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion
18.	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
19.	Ministry of Information Technology
20.	Department of Heavy Industry
21.	Department of Health
22.	Ministry of Home Affairs
23.	Ministry of Labour & Employment
24.	Department of Legal Affairs
25.	Legislative Department
26.	Department of Mines
27.	Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources
28.	Department of Ocean Development
29.	Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs
30.	Ministry of Panchayati Raj
31.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
32.	Department of Posts
33.	Ministry of Power
34.	Ministry of Rural Development
35.	Department of Science and Technology
36.	Department of Secondary Education & Higher Education
37.	Ministry of Small Scale Industries, Agro and Rural Industries
38.	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
39.	Department of Scientific & Industrial Research
40.	Department of Shipping
41.	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
42.	Department of Telecommunications
43.	Ministry of Textiles

44.	Ministry of Tourism
45.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
46.	Department of Urban Development
47.	Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation
48.	Ministry of Women and Child Development
49.	Ministry of Water Resources
50.	Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
51.	Ministry of Defence
52.	Ministry of Corporate Affairs
53.	Ministry of Steel

- ❖ Improve implementation etc.
- ❖ Collate and promote best practices on participative budgeting for and implementation of schemes

6.20 Apart from workshops, follow up discussions and one to one interactions with several Ministries/Departments were pursued to ensure that gender concerns are incorporated in all sectors. Several Departments evinced interest and requested the Ministry to give detailed insight on Gender Budgeting for their officers and divisions.

2. Mainstreaming of gender concerns taken with up with Ministries/ Departments

6.21 Gender concerns in sectors like Health and Education are very apparent and are often focused upon in allocations for gender component. However, what tends to be ignored is gender concerns in mainstream sectors like Finance, Energy, Transport, Industries, etc. Therefore, the Ministry of Women and Child Development also lays emphasis on gender mainstreaming as natural outcome of Gender Budgeting in all sectors.

6.22 The Ministry has been making efforts to generate awareness of the various important gender issues that have a bearing on policy and

implementation of all Government programmes. A few of the gender concerns that the Ministry has raised with various Ministries in Government of India are highlighted below.

Ministry of Finance

- Micro-finance and its regulation to prevent exploitation.
- Including a column on gender outcomes in the Outcome Budget of Government of India to ensure that gender concerns are kept in view.
- Gender sensitive review of monetary and fiscal policies.
- Based on recommendations of workshops held by MWCD, Gender Budgeting Charter issued on 8th March, 2007 mandating Ministries to identify 3-6 programmes for Gender Mainstreaming; Conduct/ Commission Performance audit; undertake initiatives/special measures to facilitate/improve access to services for women.

Ministry of Environment

- To make available Carbon Emission Reduction (CER) credits under the Kyoto Protocol to women SHGs for income generation purposes.

- In Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) of Projects, gender concerns need to be incorporated.

Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs

- Raising participation of women in sports and according them due recognition.
- Youth Bodies of Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sansthan and National Service Scheme to propagate against female foeticide. MWCD is drawing a campaign plan.
- Declining sex ratio to be part of training programme for 10,000 National Social Volunteers and Nehru Yuva Sahakari.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

- Health Insurance Scheme for women.
- Stringent implementation and eventual amendment of the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnosis Techniques(PC and PNDT) Act.
- Reduce Maternal and Infant Mortality rates, better immunization levels for girls and increasing number of institutional deliveries.

Planning Commission

- To ensure that Central and State Plans are engendered and identify outcomes for women.

Ministry of Law

- Compulsory registration of marriages.
- Harmonization of various laws to make them gender friendly.

Ministry of External Affairs

- To set up helpline in embassies/high commissions abroad for deserted wives/trafficked women. Enable immediate shelter, medical and legal aid and repatriation for women in distress.

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

- Issue of deserted wives of Non-Resident Indian marriages.
- Periodical return on the status of the welfare of female domestic servants in foreign country (especially gulf) by employer.
- Tighter immigration measures.

Ministry of Urban Development

- Jawahar Lal Urban Renewal Mission: -
- Safe housing; crèches, health Care Centers and Maternity Centers; hygienic road side public toilets for women; Shelters for women in need of protection; Proper street lightning and transport facilities which are gender friendly.

Ministry of Agriculture

- National Gender Resource Centre in Agriculture (NGRCA) serves as a focal point for convergence of all gender related issues in agriculture.
- Develop women friendly farm implements, access to credit, better seeds, fertilisers, market linkages etc.

Ministry of Defence

- NCC youth body to be involved in campaign against female foeticide. Training workshops by MWCD.
- Services Wives Welfare Association to take up issues of female foeticide.
- Awareness generation on PC and PNDT Act for medical personnel of armed forces.
- Gender inclusion and non-discrimination in armed forces.
- Contract to War widows Self-Help Groups to supply to Canteens

Ministry of Panchayati Raj Institutions

- Advocacy and sensitization on child sex-ratio and PNDT Act, child marriage, dowry prohibition, domestic violence etc.
- Elected women representatives to counsel expectant mothers and families on nutrition, pre and post natal care, safe delivery etc.
- To organize SHGs, adolescent groups etc on preventing social evils.
- To organize competitions among school students, street plays and IEC material.

Ministry of Information Technology

- Developing a Compact Disc(CD) having information on basic health, child health, reproductive, education and social issues like rights of women etc;
- e-governance kiosks to be allotted to women;

- Training of Self Help Groups in software solutions;
- Developing simple modules to promote computer literacy;
- Core group to take stock of inventory of gender oriented technology.

Ministry of Rural Development

- National Rural Employment Guarantee Act(NREGA) norms to be made gender friendly; flexible work norms; women friendly tools and appliances; adequate facilities at work site such as medical aid, drinking water, crèche and toilet facility.
- In Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana to contain Information Education, Communication on social evils like dowry, female foeticide.
- In Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana the benefits to women workers such as field facilities, crèches etc.

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Resources

- Improved *Chulhas* (stoves) have been scientifically designed and have a thermal efficiency of 20 to 30 percent.
- A scheme where solar lanterns are provided to girls studying in the 9th and 10th classes, so that they don't drop out of school.
- SHGs trained as women entrepreneurs so that they can be engaged in repairs, maintenance and the sale of renewable energy devices.
- Aditya solar shops are also being run exclusively by women.

- Test projects on village energy security especially in remote villages, which are inaccessible and cannot be reached by the grid.

Department of Science and Technology

- Earmark funds for undertaking research and technology innovation on health and nutrition of women and children.
- Prepare a directory of technological innovations, which have gender impact.

Department of Food

- Accessible and affordable PDS system
- Setting up of Grain Banks in vulnerable areas

Department of Posts and Telecom

- Promotion of Small Saving facilities at Post offices
- Postal Life & Crop Insurance
- SHGs to set up Public Call Offices

Ministry of Home Affairs

- Setting up of Women Thanas(Police Stations) wherever possible.
- Setting up of women and child help desk in every *Thana*.
- Gender sensitization exercises and training for police on women's issues/laws.
- Recruitment of more women police.

Ministry of Tourism

- Women-friendly safeguards for women foreign tourists

- Special Beach police for checking to prevent paedophilia & child sex-tourism
- To ensure proper lighting, transport & security at important tourist spots
- Special checks on Pilgrim Towns to prevent Commercial Sexual Exploitation
- Safe and women-friendly boarding and lodging facilities
- Hygienic and accessible toilet facilities alongside Tourist highways and towns

Training

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance, Commonwealth Secretariat and UNIFEM organized a two-day workshop on 12-13 July, 2007. The workshop was inaugurated by Secretary, Ministry of Finance who spoke of the need to incorporate gender perspective in the Ministries, policies and programmes. The two-day workshop took the participants through various aspects of Gender Responsive Budgets and how to engender budgets and outcomes. The sessions mainly were participative and interactive and included a number of group exercises. The sessions were conducted by Ms. Debbie Budlender, well-known Gender Budgeting Specialist and also Consultant, Commonwealth Secretariat. Fifty-two participants from Gender Budgeting Cells (GBCs) of various Ministries and Departments participated in the workshop.
- During various forums on Gender Budgeting, it was felt that a cadre of trainers should be formed not only to provide technical support to GBCs in taking forward Gender Budgeting in their respective Ministers/Departments but also to form a core group of trainers for

future workshops. In this connection, the Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) and supported by UNDP and UNIFEM organized a three day Training of Trainers workshop from 30 October to 1 November, 2007. Ms. Debbie Budlender, Gender Budgeting Specialist was the main resource persons for the Workshop. Around 35 participants have been trained in the first round of trainings. As a follow-up to the workshop, a training Manual on Gender Budgeting has been developed.

- In addition to the above the Ministry undertakes one-to-one orientation and workshops exercises with different Ministries, State Governments, training institutes as well as International organizations. In this context, some of the activities undertaken include: -

- ❖ A special presentation on Gender Budgeting Initiatives was made before the Parliamentarians in the Parliamentary Consultative Committee.
- ❖ A special orientation on Gender Budgeting was conducted for academicians and teaching professionals in a symposium organized by National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development(NIPCCD).
- ❖ In April 2007, a presentation on Government of India initiatives on Gender Budgeting was made to the State representatives of Bihar.
- ❖ In May 2007, Workshop was held for representatives of State Government from Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh and Uttranchal. These States

were sensitized on the concept, tools, strategies of Gender Budgeting and a draft GB Charter was formulated.

- ❖ In May 2007, the representative from Ministry made a presentation before 2006 batch of officers trainees of the IAS at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy (LBSNAA) of Administration, Mussorie, to acquaint them on the basic concepts of Gender Budgeting
- ❖ In June 2007, the Ministry interacted with senior officials of Ministry of Defence on Gender Budgeting to orient Gender Budgeting Cells set-up in the Ministry. In July, 2007, a special orientation exercise was conducted for officers of the Defence Research and Development Organization.
- ❖ In June 2007, In the Ministry also interacted with Central and State Government Officials on Gender Budgeting at a training workshop organized by the institute of Secretarial Training and Management, New Delhi.
- ❖ Special orientation on Gender Budgeting was conducted for Ministry of Minority Affairs.
- ❖ The Mexican delegation led by the First lady were oriented on the initiatives taken by the Ministry in Gender Budgeting.
- ❖ The Ministry interacted with the Korean Delegation from the Women's Development Centre and subsequently participated in the International Symposium on GB in Seoul, South Korea where the initiatives of the Country was shared

with representatives from USA, UK, Sweden, Spain etc.

- ❖ The Ministry was also represented at the Sixth Regional Meeting on Gender Responsive Budget jointly organized by the Ministry of Finance, Government of Nepal, and UNIFEM South Asia Office at Kathmandu, Nepal from 3-5 December, 2007. The participants from Government, academic institutions, civil society and international agencies from the various SAARC countries were present. The representative of MWCD actively led and contributed to the discussions. This forum gave the Ministry an opportunity to profile the diverse initiatives undertaken by the country in Gender Budgeting. The presentation made was widely appreciated and it was universally accepted that India has taken a lead role in Gender Budgeting.
- ❖ The Concepts and initiatives of Gender Budgeting was shared with women's groups such as Women Power Connect in National Symposiums.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development, in collaboration with UNDP organized a two day Workshop on 'Gender Budgeting', from 8-9 February, 2008 at Mud Fort Kuchesar, Bulandshahar. Senior

level officers, representing 11 Ministries and Departments of Government of India participated in the Workshop.

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development has developed a Handbook for Gender Budgeting for Gender Budget Cells in Central Ministries and Departments. For this purpose, the Ministry had set-up a Task Force comprising of MWCD, UNIFEM, UNDP, IFES and experts to assist the Ministry in framing, conceptualizing and developing a Handbook. It is envisaged that the Handbook will provide necessary guidelines to the Gender Budget Cells in engendering their policies and programmes.

6.23 The Ministry of Women and Child Development, in collaboration with UNDP, UNIFEM and International expert, Ms. Debbie Budlender, has developed a Training Manual for Government of India Ministries and Departments. The objective of the Training Manual is to form a 'core group' of trainees for 'Gender Budgeting' training.

Gender Budget Bureau

6.24 At present the Ministry has no dedicated staff for Gender Budgeting. A Scheme for Gender Budgeting has been included in 11th Plan with an Outlay of Rs 3 crore in the Annual Plan 2007-08. The Scheme comprises of two components (1) A staff component for handling Gender Budgeting work and (2) Training, Workshops, Research and Surveys. The SFC for the Scheme is under consideration.



Child Budgeting

7

Child Budgeting: *Improving performance in allocations and utilization of resources*

“Any strategy for removing disparities, bridging divides, and ensuring the well-being of our people, must begin by respecting the rights of our child population. Rights based development of children must be at the centre of the 11th Plan. We must ensure that our children do not lose their childhood because of work, disease or despair.”

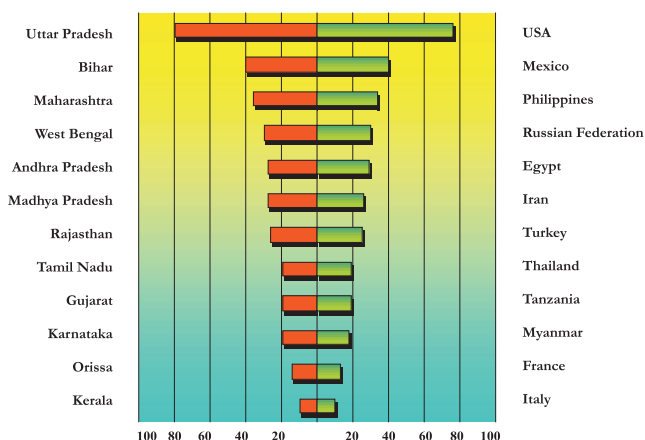
Source: Approach Paper, 11th Five Year Plan, Planning Commission 2007

7.1 The budget is a political instrument that reflects the vision and priorities of a society, including the value it places on the fulfilment of human rights, beginning with children. It is essential to work with budgets in order to ensure sufficient resources to guarantee children’s rights, including universal access to quality basic social services – key to achieving the MDGs and our national development targets.

7.2 The development trajectory taken by India over the last one and a half decades has resulted in impressive levels of economic growth, but this growth process has failed to improve the status of some of the disadvantaged sections of the population. The persistence of significant deficits in development of children in India is one of several such failures of the growth process witnessed over the last one and a half decades.

7.3 Children under 18 years constitute 39% of India’s population, and the share of children in the population of our major states is similar to the total population of many large countries, as Figure 1 below shows.

Figure 1: Share of child population, select Indian states in international perspective



7.4 In 2005, the National Plan of Action for Children, outlined commitments for all Central, state and local governments in the country towards fulfilling child rights, in four interlinked areas: child survival, child development, child protection and child participation. These commitments in turn draw on the mandate delivered by the Indian Constitution as Box 1 elaborates.

The source of India data is Population Projection of India 2001-2026, Office of the Registrar General, India

Box 1: Constitutional commitments to children

Article 14—The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of laws within the territory of India.

Article 15—The State shall not discriminate against any citizen.....Nothing in this Article shall prevent the State from making any special provisions for women and children.

Article 21—No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.

Article 21 A—The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of 6-14 years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine.

Article 23—Traffic in human beings and *begar* and other forms of forced labour are prohibited and any contravention of this provision shall be an offence punishable in accordance with the law.

Article 24—No child below the age of 14 years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment.

Article 45— The State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years.

Article 243G read with Schedule 11 – provide for institutionalization of child care by seeking to entrust programmes of Women and Child Development to Panchayat (Item 25 of Schedule 11), apart from education(item 17), family welfare(item 25), health and sanitation(item 23) and other items with a bearing on the welfare of children.

Source: National Plan of Action for Children 2005

Child Budgeting

7.5 The total magnitude of child specific budget outlays, i.e. *the total magnitude of budget outlays on child specific programmes/schemes*, is what we refer to as *the 'Child Budget'*. Thus, 'Child Budget' is not a separate budget, but a part of the usual government budget. In the context of the Union Government, 'Child Budget' refers to *the total outlays for child specific schemes in the Union Budget*. 'Child Budgeting' has emerged as an analytical tool for assessing the priority accorded to children in public spending in the country.

7.6 In addition to specific schemes targeted at children, it is important to include in the 'Child Budget' analysis of aggregate public spending on the social sector which shapes the wider resource envelope within which targeted investments for

children are being made. Of the broadly three kinds of services delivered by the government in India (viz. general services, economic services, and social services), children benefit particularly from Social Services. Therefore, while looking at government budgets through the lens of children, we first need to track the expenditures from Union and State Budgets on Social Services. Though it is not easy to segregate the total expenditures on important social services to identify the specific benefits accruing to children, general investments in education, health and family welfare, and water supply and sanitation, amongst others, are likely to have an impact on family well-being and the community, which in turn can have significant positive implications for children.

7.7 The National Plan of Action for Children (2005) brought out by this Ministry "commits

the allocation of the required financial, material, technical and human resources from the Central and the State Government to ensure its full implementation. Investing in children lays the foundation for a just society, a strong economy, and a world free of poverty". This requires that Ministries and Departments with specific child budgets and plans should ensure 100% spending and should also enhance budget in view of large child population. Specific requirements from Union and State governments are highlighted in Box 2 below.

Child Well-being outcomes: Recent evidence

7.8 Over the last one and a half decades, India has succeeded in bringing down the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) per 1000 live births from a level of 80 in 1990 to 57 in 2005-06. However, it is still much higher than the levels of IMR not only in the developed countries but also in many developing countries, for instance Sri Lanka (15 in 2003)

and China (37 in 2003). More importantly, the aggregate IMR for India hides a vast disparity persisting across the States. The level of IMR still varies widely across the States, with the six economically backward States, viz. Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Orissa, Rajasthan and Bihar recording very high levels of IMR (above 60 per 1000 live births in 2005-06 for each of these, according to National Family Health Survey- III).

7.9 The NFHS-III has also revealed that Vaccination Coverage (among children aged 12-23 months) in India has improved very marginally from 42 % in 1998-99 to 44 % in 2005-06.

7.10 Likewise, the progress in Coverage of Institutional Deliveries has been very slow with only 40.7 % coverage in the country in 2005-06.

7.11 Moreover, the results from NFHS-III point to the very disturbing fact that while the Proportion of Underweight Children among all children under 3 years was 47 % in 1998-99, it still persisted at the level of 46 % in 2005-06.

Box 2: Commitments for Child Budgeting

- Where no overt child budget is available, the demarcation should be made of child budget, spending and monitoring.
- *Ministries and departments should:*
- Establish a systematic assessment of the impact of budgetary allocations and macroeconomic policies on the implementation of children's rights
- Based on assessment of budgetary expenditure on children, review and enhance financial provisions and allocation.
- Ensure that priority is given to economic, social and cultural rights of children in budget allocations, with particular emphasis on the enjoyment of these rights by children belonging to the most disadvantaged groups.
- Ensure that adequate proportion of social expenditure is devoted to children at national, regional and local level.
- Ensure that all competent national, regional and local authorities are guided by the best interests of the child in their budgetary decisions and evaluate the priority given to children in their policy-making.
- Ensure coordination between economic and social policies. • Ensure that disparities between different regions and groups of children are bridged in relation to the provision of social services.

Source: National Plan of Action for Children 2005

Table 1: Key Indicators of the Deficit in Development of Children in India

S. No.	States	Infant Mortality Rate (Per 1000 Live Births)	Children Under Age 3 Who Are Underweight (in %)	Vaccination Coverage (in %)	Coverage of Institutional Deliveries (in %)	DropOut Rates in Class I - X
		(2005-06)	(2005-06)	(2005-06)	(2005-06)	(2004-05)
1	Uttar Pradesh	73	47	23	22	43.77
2	Chhattisgarh	71	52	49	15.7	*
3	Madhya Pradesh	70	60	40	29.7	64.7
4	Jharkhand	69	59	35	19.2	*
5	Assam	66	40	32	22.7	74.96
6	Orissa	65	44	52	38.7	64.42
7	Rajasthan	65	44	27	32.2	73.87
8	Bihar	62	58	33	22	83.06
9	Arunachal Pradesh	61	37	28	30.8	70.79
10	Andhra Pradesh	53	37	46	68.6	63.69
11	Tripura	52	39	50	48.9	73.36
12	Gujarat	50	47	45	54.6	59.29
13	Delhi	40	33	63	60.7	46.92
14	West Bengal	48	44	64	43.1	78.03
15	Jammu & Kashmir	45	29	67	54.3	53.75
16	Meghalaya	45	46	33	29.7	79.15
17	Karnataka	43	41	55	66.9	59.38
18	Uttaranchal	42	38	60	36	*
19	Haryana	42	42	65	39.4	32.48
20	Punjab	42	27	60	52.5	44.06
21	Nagaland	38	30	21	12.2	67.29
22	Maharashtra	38	40	59	66.1	54.16
23	Himachal Pradesh	36	36	74	45.3	32.42 #
24	Mizoram	34	22	46	64.6	66.95
25	Sikkim	34	23	70	49	82.3
26	Tamil Nadu	31	33	81	90.4	55.19
27	Manipur	30	24	47	49.3	43.02
28	Goa	15	29	79	92.6	40.65
29	Kerala	15	29	75	99.5	7.15
	India	57	46	44	40.7	61.92

Notes: Infant Mortality Rate (Per 1000 Live Births): Number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births in the last 5 years;

Children Under Age 3 Who Are Underweight: Percentage of children under age 3 who are underweight (too thin for age);

Vaccination Coverage: Percentage of children 12-23 months who have received all recommended vaccines;

Coverage of Institutional Deliveries: Percentage of institutional births, based on the last 2 births in the 3 years before the survey.

* Dropout rates are shown combined with the respective parent States.

#The drop out rate (Class I-X) figure for Himachal Pradesh is for the year 2003-04.

Sources:

1. National Family Health Survey (NFHS) - 3, *Provisional Data for India and 29 States (Fact Sheets)*, 2005-2006, downloaded from www.nfhsindia.org (for data on- IMR per 1000 live births, Children under age 3 who are underweight, Vaccination Coverage, and Coverage of Institutional Deliveries)
2. Govt. of India, Ministry of Human Resources Development, *Annual Report for 2006-07*, downloaded from www.education.nic.in (for data on Drop Out Rates)

7.12 Additionally, many children in India, such as those engaged in child labour, street children, child prostitutes, children of prostitutes, handicapped children, children affected by calamities and children in conflict with law, are exposed to different kinds of risks. A comprehensive intervention from the government is essential for the protection of such children exposed to different kinds of difficult circumstances. Thus, in the various sectors relating to children, such as child survival and health, early childhood care and nutrition, child education, and protection of children in difficult circumstances, there are persisting problems in the country, which call for better policies and greater priorities for children.

Public Spending on the Social Sector

7.13 India's low levels of public spending on social services like, education, health, and water supply and sanitation, is one of the major reasons for the persistence of problems in the domain of human development. A comparison of the public expenditures on health and education in different countries shows that India's public expenditure on these two important social services (as a proportion of the country's GDP) is low in comparison to not only the developed countries but also some of the developing countries. The gap between other countries and India is particularly sharp in case of public expenditure on health (see Table 2 below).

Table 2: Public Spending on Education & Health: An International Comparison

Country	Public Expenditure on Education as % of GDP (2002-04)*	Public Expenditure on Health as % of GDP (2003)
France	6	7.7
U.K.	5.5	6.9
U.S.	5.9	6.8
Brazil	4.1	3.4
South Africa	5.4	3.2
Mexico	5.8	2.9
S. Korea	4.6	2.8
Bangladesh	2.2	2.3
Malaysia	8	2.2
India	3.3	1.2

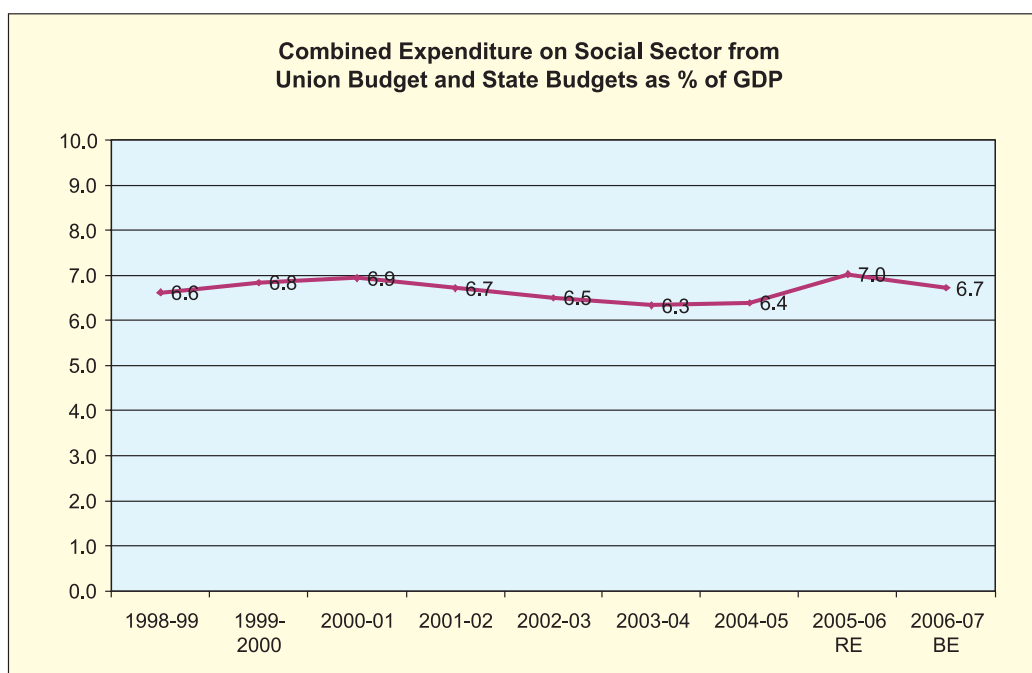
Note: * For the most recent year, during 2002-2004, for which data was available.

Source: UNDP, Human Development Report 2006

7.14 Hence, there is a strong case for improving significantly the priority for social services in public spending in India. However, as shown in Figure 2 below, the total public spending on social sector in the country has not registered any increase over the last decade. After recording a relatively high figure of 7 % of the GDP in 2005-06 (RE)¹, the total public spending on social sector in the country fell to 6.7 % of the GDP in 2006-07 (BE).

7.16 In the last three Union Budgets, outlays for some of the important social sector schemes, e.g. *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*, *Mid Day Meal* and *ICDS*, which directly benefit children, have been increased. Union Budget outlays have also been increased for several other programmes/schemes (e.g. *National Rural Health Mission*, *Total Sanitation Campaign*, and *Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme*), which benefit children as well as others.

Figure 2: Total Public Expenditure on Social Sector in India



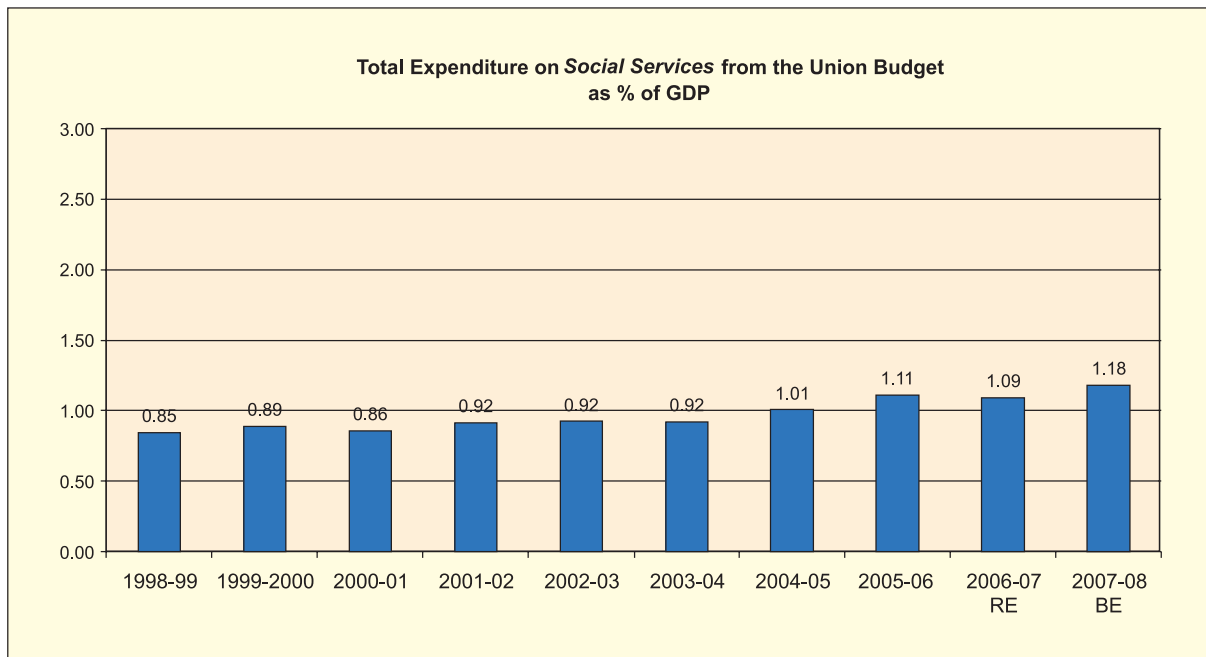
7.15 An analysis of the broad trends in budget outlays by the Union Government shows that its aggregate expenditure on social sector as a proportion of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country has been increasing over the last decade. As Figure 3 shows, Union Government's total expenditure on Social Services has increased from around 0.85 % of the GDP in 1998-99 to 1.18 % of GDP in 2007-08. In fact, the last four Union Budgets, i.e. 2004-05 to 2007-08, indeed present a welcome trend of significant increases in Union Government's expenditure on social services, which reflects the attention paid by the Union Government to the need for stepping up public spending on social services.

¹ RE: Revised Estimates

7.17 However, in the overall scenario of public spending on social sector in India, expenditures from the State Budgets account for a very large share. As shown in Figure 4 below, the total expenditure on social sector from the Budgets of all States has not registered any significant increases over the last few years. In fact, the level of total spending on social sector from the Budgets of all States in 2006-07 (BE)² was 5.7 % of the GDP, while this figure in 1998-99 was 5.8 % of the GDP. Moreover, while the overall public spending on social sector in India appears to be low, the picture is quite uneven if we compare the public spending by different States.

² BE: Budget Estimates

Figure 3: Expenditure on *Social Services* from the Union Budget



Source: Based on data compiled from Union Budget, Annual Financial Statement, various years.

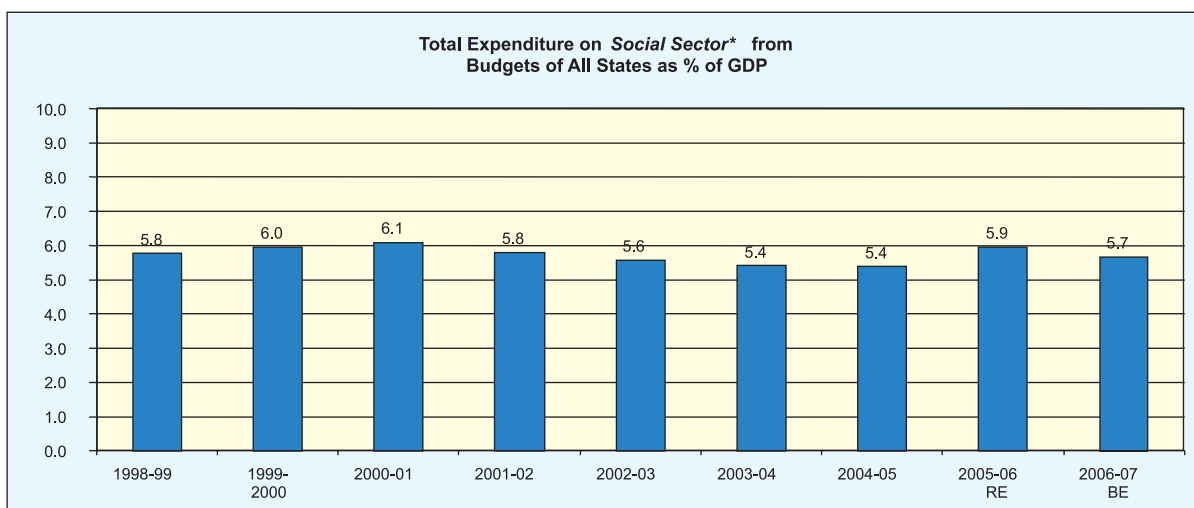
7.18 Hence, while it is important that the Union Government continues to prioritize social sector in its expenditures, the States must step up their spending on social sector significantly in order to improve the overall scenario of availability of public resources for children.

Investments for Children from the Union Budget

Methodology and Data

7.19 The analysis presented in this chapter is based on research support provided by the *Centre*

Figure 4: Expenditure on *Social Sector from the Budgets of All States**



Note: * Expenditure on Social Sector, as reported in the RBI publications, includes expenditure by the State Governments on Social Services, Rural Development, Food Storage and Warehousing.

Source: Compiled from Reserve Bank of India, “State Finances: A Study of Budgets”, various issues.

for Budget and Governance Accountability and UNICEF. It must be noted here that the approach towards segregating child specific public expenditure from the government budget is an ex ante approach, not an ex post approach. An ex post approach would require identifying the proportion of children among all beneficiaries in each of the developmental programme/ scheme run by the government. Such an analysis would confront serious obstacles in availability of information. On the other hand, the ex ante approach has its own significance. In this approach, *selection of a particular scheme as child specific (and hence as a part of the Child Budget) depends on the policy goal underlying that scheme.* Thus, in this ex ante approach, a scheme like “Strengthening of Immunisation Programme & Eradication of Polio” would be selected as child specific as the government policy underlying the scheme distinctively aims for improving the condition of children, but a scheme like “Grants for All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi” would not be considered a part of the Child Budget as the policy underlying this public expenditure does not aim specifically for better outcomes for children. However, if any component of a scheme, such as “Improvement in Working Conditions of Child/ Women Labour”, is meant specifically for children, a part or whole of the expenditure on it would be included in the ‘Child Budget’ depending on availability of information. Taking into account the child rights discourse and, in particular, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the present analysis takes all persons up to the age of 18 years as children.

7.20 Keeping in mind the different needs of children in our country, all programmes/ schemes included in the ‘Child Budget’ are categorized into four sectors, viz.:

- Child Development,
- Child Health,
- Child Education, and
- Child Protection.

7.21 However, this categorization is subjective to some extent as certain child specific schemes address multiple needs of children and hence they can be considered for more than one of the categories mentioned above. For instance, a scheme like “National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (or the Mid-day Meal scheme)” may be considered as a part of Child Education or as a part of Child Development (in the analysis presented here this scheme has been included under Child Education). But in order to avoid double counting of child specific public expenditure, every such scheme (addressing multiple needs of children) is included in any one of the four categories only.

7.22 The Union Government Ministries, which have child specific schemes, are as given below:

- Women and Child Development
- Human Resource Development
- Health and Family Welfare
- Labour and Employment
- Social Justice and Empowerment
- Tribal Affairs
- Minority Affairs
- Youth Affairs and Sports.

7.23 The data pertaining to budget outlays on child specific schemes by the above-mentioned Ministries, used in the analysis presented here, have been compiled from the *Expenditure Budget Volume II (Notes on Demands for Grants)* in the Union Budgets of the relevant years. It may be noted here that the limitations of data provided in the Union Budget papers have led to certain limitations in the present analysis.

- It does not capture the child-specific component in some of the schemes funded by the Union Government (e.g. the *Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme*, and the *Total Sanitation Campaign*), while in some cases it makes a little over-estimation of child specific spending by

including the total outlays for certain schemes (e.g. the outlays for *Sports Authority of India*).

- In the Union Budget documents, for the schemes run by different Ministries only Revised Estimates are available in *Expenditure Budget Vol. II*, not the actual expenditures. Hence, the analysis presented here discusses only the Revised Estimates of expenditures and not the actual expenditures on child-specific schemes.

- Also, in case of some of the schemes included in the present analysis, the figures for budget outlays by the Union Government exclude that part of the outlay which is provided for the North Eastern Area and Sikkim (which would be around 10% of the budget outlay for a scheme captured in this analysis).

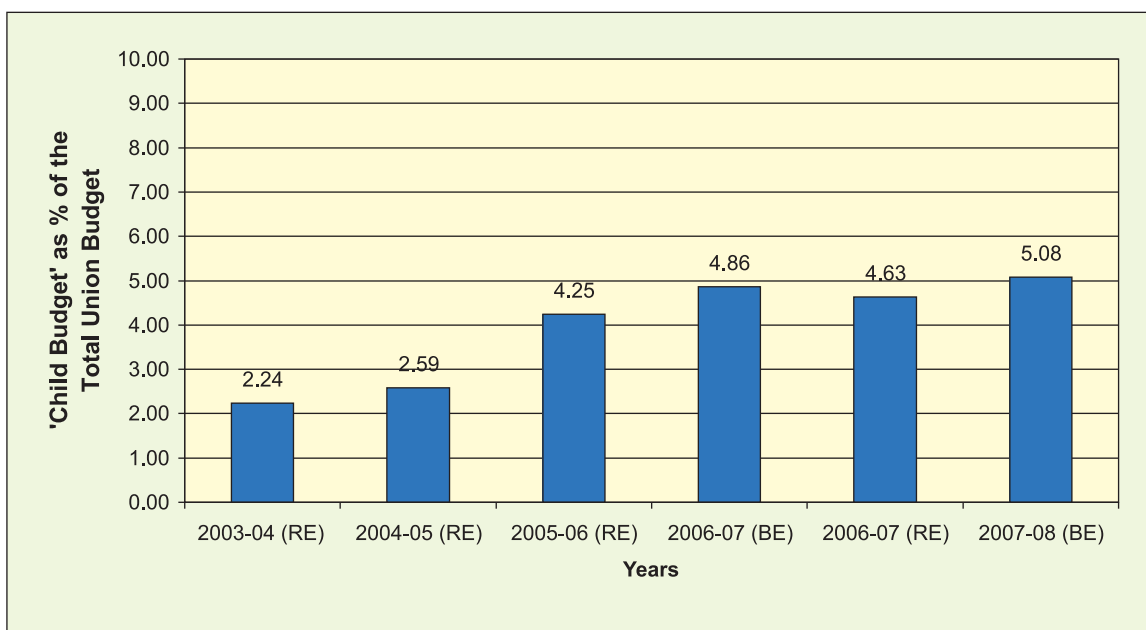
Key Findings

7.24 The magnitude of ‘Child Budget’ within the Union Budget, i.e. the aggregate outlay for child

specific schemes as a proportion of total budget outlay by the Union Government has increased from 4.86 % in 2006-07 (BE) to 5.08 % in 2007-08 (BE). We must note here that the currently observed level of priority accorded to the child specific schemes in the Union Budget, which is 5.08 % in 2007-08 (BE), is significantly higher than what it was in the earlier Union Budgets. The sharp increase in the magnitude of ‘Child Budget’ within the Union Budget in 2005-06 (RE) was mainly on account of the significant increases in Union Budget outlays for *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*, *ICDS* and *RCH programme*.

7.25 If we take into account the fact that children (i.e. all persons up to the age of 18 years) constitute around 40 % of the country’s population and that many of the outcome indicators for children, such as those captured by the successive rounds of NFHS, point to the disadvantaged status of our children; the magnitude of ‘Child Budget’

Figure 5: Outlays for Child-Specific Schemes as a proportion of the Union Budget



Note: The figure for Total Expenditure from Union Budget in 2007-08 used in the present analysis does not include the Rs. 40,000 Crore worth of non-plan transaction to be undertaken in 2007-08 relating to the transfer of RBI’s stake in SBI to the Government.

Source: Please see Annexure for the detailed figures for ‘Child Budget’ (i.e. total outlays earmarked for child specific schemes) and the total Union Budget.

at 5.08 % of the total Union Budget in 2007-08 (BE) seems inadequate. Moreover, analysis for the Budgets of States (such as, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh) indicates that many of the State Governments have become heavily dependent on Union Budget outlays for the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for children (such as, *SSA*, *Mid Day Meal*, *ICDS* and *RCH*) for financing targeted interventions for children in their States. If we take into account this growing dependence of States on the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for children, we have to infer that the magnitude of 'Child Budget' in the Union Budget is still inadequate.

7.26 It would be worthwhile here to look at the outlays earmarked for each of the four child-related sectors as a proportion of the total Union Budget, which would reveal the priorities accorded to these different sectors.

7.27 Outlays for Child Development as a proportion of total budget outlays by the Union Government have increased from 0.86 % in 2006-07 (BE) to 0.88 % in 2007-08 (BE). Union Government's outlays for Child Health as a proportion of its total budget outlays shows a decline from 0.56 % in 2006-07 (BE) to 0.52

% in 2007-08 (BE). Budgetary provisions for Child Education shows an increase from 3.41 % of the total Union Budget in 2006-07 (BE) to 3.63 % of the total Union Budget in 2007-08 (BE). This increase in the priority accorded to Child Education in Union Budget 2007-08 has been mainly on account of a substantial rise in the allocation for *Mid-Day Meal* scheme and almost doubling of the allocation for Secondary Education (under the MHRD). The outlays for Child Protection register an increase from 0.034 % of the total Union Budget in 2006-07 (BE) to 0.053 % of the total Union Budget in 2007-08 (BE).

7.28 Thus, priorities accorded to Child Protection, Child Development and Child Health in the total spending by the Union Government do not register any noticeable corresponding allocations. The Union Government still needs to augment resources for child protection, with a significant increase in fund support for this sector. The same is also true for Child Development sector. Universalisation of the ICDS services, with acceptable quality of the services delivered, certainly demands a substantial increase in resources for this scheme. On the other hand,

Box 3: Outlays for the Various Child-Related Sectors in Union Budget 2007-08

Child Education:

Total allocation increased from Rs. 19,236.3 crore (3.3 % of total Union Budget) in 2006-07 RE to Rs. 23,244.4 crore (3.63 % of total Union Budget) in 2007-08 BE.

Child Protection:

Total allocation increased from Rs. 183.5 crore (0.032 % of total Union Budget) in 2006-07 RE to Rs. 340.1 crore (0.053 % of total Union Budget) in 2007-08 BE.

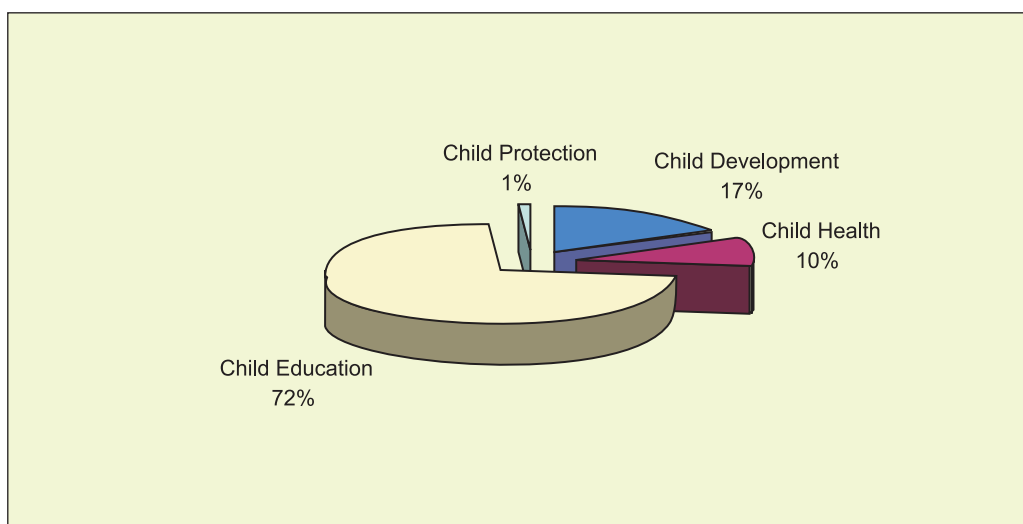
Early Childhood Care & Development:

Total allocation increased from Rs. 4,864.5 crore (0.84 % of total Union Budget) in 2006-07 RE to Rs. 5,654.6 crore (0.88 % of total Union Budget) in 2007-08 BE.

Child Health:

Total allocation increased from Rs. 2,649.3 crore (0.46 % of total Union Budget) in 2006-07 RE to Rs. 3,301.5 crore (0.52 % of total Union Budget) in 2007-08 BE.

Figure 6: Sectoral Composition of the Total Outlays for Child-Specific Schemes in Union Budget 2007-08



the findings of NFHS-III (2005-06) clearly show the persistence of huge deficits in child survival and child health in the country, especially in the backward States. In light of these realizations, it is imperative that the Union Budget outlays on programmes/ schemes under Child Health are stepped up significantly so as to strengthen the government interventions in this sector.

7.29 The priority accorded to Child Education sector, which stood at 3.63 % of the Union Budget in 2007-08 (BE), needs to be interpreted carefully. This is much higher than the priority for other three sectors, but in no way suggests that resources provided from the Union Budget for Child Education have been adequate. It has been argued by several observers that over the last decade, States' efforts towards containing their fiscal crisis have resulted in a reduction in the priority for education within their budgets. Also, even the current level of total public spending on education, which was estimated to be 3.66 % of the GDP in 2005-06³, is much less than the 6 % of GDP, which the Kothari Commission had recommended (in the late 1960s) as the desired level of total public spending on education in

India to be achieved by 1986. Hence, there can be no doubt about the need for a significant increase in the Union Budget outlays for Child Education sector as well.

7.30 However, the total public spending in the country on these child-related sectors cannot rise to adequate levels unless States step up their spending significantly. A very large share of the total 'Child Budget' in State Budgets goes for Non Plan spending on Education; while Plan spending on Child Health, Development and Protection in many of the States is heavily dependent on the Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Hence, the States also need to step up their spending, especially Plan spending on Child Protection, Child Health and Child Development.

Looking Forward: Recent Initiatives for Accelerating Development of Children

7.31 The Union Government has made specific commitments, at national as well as international fora, such as the national development goals as envisaged in the Five Year Plans and the MDGs, to strive for protection of children's rights and accelerate development of children in the country.

³Provisional estimate for Total Expenditure on Education (as % of GDP) by Education Dept. and Other Depts in the Central and State Governments, given by *GoI, Min. of HRD, "Analysis of Budgeted Expenditure on Education: 2003-04 to 2005-06"*, published in 2006.

7.32 A comprehensive National Plan of Action for Children, 2005 has been drawn up for time-bound achievements in terms of reduction of infant and child mortality and HIV prevalence in infants, universal access to drinking water and basic sanitation, and the elimination of child marriages as well as the incidence of disabilities due to polio. The Government has initiated several legislative interventions for protection of child rights.

7.33 The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights was constituted in March 2007 to study and monitor all matters relating to child rights, examine and review legal safeguards, recommend measures for effective implementation of laws, review and suggest amendments to existing laws, look into cases involving violation of child rights, and monitor implementation of laws and programmes for children. In 2006, the

Union Government also brought an Amendment to the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000. This amendment was meant to incorporate progressive measures and safeguards and introduce model rules under the Act.

7.34 The Union Government has also taken specific policy initiatives for addressing the development deficits of children. As has already been mentioned, public spending on important social services, like, education, health & family welfare, and water supply & sanitation, etc. are likely to have an impact on family well-being and the community which in turn can have significant positive implications for children. In the last three Union Budgets (i.e. 2005-06 to 2007-08), allocations for some of the important social sector

Table 3: New Schemes for Children launched by Union Government in 2007-08

Ministry/ Department	Scheme	Allocation from Union Budget for 2007-08	Key Objective
Dept. of School Education & Literacy (Secondary Education)	Scheme for Universal Access & Quality at Secondary Stage	Rs 1305 crore	To meet the increased demand for access to Secondary Education
	Scheme for Incentive to the Girl Child for Secondary Education	Rs. 1 crore	To provide incentives to girls for Sec. Education
	National Merit Scholarship Scheme (2 existing schemes merged with this Scheme.)	Rs. 120 crore	Scholarships for 1 lakh SC/ST/OBC and economically backward class students for IX-XII class
Min. of Women & Child Development	Integrated Child Protection Scheme	Rs. 95 crore	To build a protective environment for children with Govt. - Civil Society partnership
	Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme for the Girl Child with Insurance Cover	Rs. 15 crore	Cash transfer to the mother of girl child for- Girl's Birth; Birth Registration; Immunization; School Enrolment & Retention; Delaying age of marriage beyond 18 years.

Source: Compiled from Union Budget, Expenditure Budget Vol. II, 2007-08.

schemes, such as, *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)*, *National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)*, *ICDS*, *Mid Day Meal*, and *Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC)* have been stepped up noticeably. Also, the *National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS)* launched by the Government is synergistically linked to the development of rural poor and marginalized communities and their children.

7.35 Also, in 2007-08, the Union Government launched several new schemes for development of children. Table 3, given below, presents a snapshot of these new schemes.

Focus on Development of Children in the Eleventh Plan

7.36 The Planning Commission, in its *Approach Paper* to the Eleventh Five Year Plan, has outlined the importance of focusing on development of children and emphasized the need for taking strategic initiatives in this regard. Highlights are provided in Box 4.

Next Steps

7.37 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is convening a National

Box 4: Priorities for Children in the Eleventh Five Year Plan

“ The Integrated Child Development Programme (ICDS) is aimed at giving children below the age of 6 the right start in life. The programme covers supplementary nutrition, immunization, monitoring of weight and height, and in some cases, crèche facilities for a limited period. The effectiveness of the programme varies across States but where it works well, it provides much needed facilities especially to the weaker sections. Its coverage, however, is limited and often the youngest children in the 0-3 years age group get left out of its ambit. The 11th Plan must universalize ICDS and also find practical ways of reaching out to the children in the 0-3 age group. Strong efforts also need to be made to improve accountability through greater involvement of PRIs.

Meeting the nutritional needs of children however is not enough. Child mental health is a much neglected area in our country. According to the ICMR, at any given time, 7-15 % of Indian children suffer from mental disorders. It is thus vital to provide counselling services for children in all schools - private or public - to ensure their well-being. Mental health must be made an integral part of the school health programme in the 11th Plan.

School is an important element of a child’s development. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan aims at providing elementary education to all children in the 6-14 years age group. Children from socially disadvantaged families often have learning difficulties since, among other things, their vocabulary at entry to primary school is limited. Special help in pre-primary schools can help them overcome this handicap. Efforts must be made to mainstream differently-abled and other disadvantaged children and to provide them access to education, just like other children their age.

The most vulnerable such as street children, trafficked children, children affected by conflict or calamities, children of sex workers, child labourers, children with HIV/AIDS, victims of child sex abuse, differently-abled children, and juvenile delinquents need special attention. Adoption, rescue and rehabilitation, juvenile police units, shelter homes, counselling and medical aid etc., also need attention as they contribute to ensuring a secure childhood to children.”

Source: Approach Paper, 11th Five Year Plan, Planning Commission 2007

Consultation in early 2008 to focus states' attention on issues and strategies for improving performance in utilization of resources, and increasing the size of the 'Child Budget' to meet the needs of this significant section of the Indian population. Through this consultation, states will share experiences and strategies relating to the performance of key sectors that impact on children's well-being and a roadmap for Child Budgeting activities across the country will be developed.

7.38 The Ministry will continue to lead efforts to ensure that overall performance of programmes and schemes for children improves with the collaboration and commitment of all concerned Ministries and other partners. Our aim is to ensure that the vision outlined in the 11th Five Year plan, highlighted at the beginning of this Chapter, translates into real measurable outcomes for children over the next five years.

Annexure

'Child Budget' in the Union Budget: 2003-04 to 2007-08

	2003-04 (RE)	2004-05 (RE)	2005-06 (RE)	2006-07 (BE)	2006-07 (RE)	2007-08 (BE)
Budgetary Provisions for schemes under Child Development (in Rs. Crore)	2166	2291.39	3947.91	4859.38	4864.55	5654.63
Allocations for Child Development as a proportion of Total Expenditure of Union Government (in %)	0.46	0.45	0.78	0.86	0.84	0.88
Budgetary Provisions for schemes under Child Health (in Rs. Crore)	1266.96	1576.71	2806.72	3133.54	2649.33	3301.53
Expenditure on Child Health as a proportion of Total Expenditure of Union Government (in %)	0.27	0.31	0.55	0.56	0.46	0.52
Budgetary Provisions for schemes under Child Education (in Rs. Crore)	6878.46	8831.41	14294.1	19231.24	19236.26	23244.43
Expenditure on Child Education as a proportion of Total Expenditure of Union Government (in %)	1.45	1.75	2.81	3.41	3.31	3.63
Budgetary Provisions for schemes under Child Protection (in Rs. Crore)	113.61	152.87	173.04	192.81	183.53	340.1
Expenditure on Child Protection as a proportion of Total Expenditure of Union Government (in %)	0.024	0.030	0.034	0.034	0.032	0.053
Total Child-specific Allocations (in Rs. Crore)	10425.03	13092.38	21597.82	27416.97	26933.67	32540.7
Total Expenditure in Union Budget (in Rs. Crore)	474254	505791	508705	563991	581637	640521
Total Child-specific Allocations as % of Total Expenditure in Union Budget	2.24	2.59	4.25	4.86	4.63	5.08

Notes:

1. BE: Budget Estimates; RE: Revised Estimates.
2. Expenditure Budget Volume II (Notes on Demands for Grants) in the Union Budget documents does not give Actuals, hence we have taken Revised Estimates for the years from 2003-04 to 2006-07.
3. Total Expenditure figures for 2002-03 to 2005-06 are also *Revised Estimates*, though *Actuals* are available. This has been followed for the sake of consistency in the analysis.
4. The figure for Total Expenditure from Union Budget in 2007-08 used in the present analysis does not include the Rs. 40,000 Crore worth of non-plan transaction to be undertaken in 2007-08 relating to the transfer of RBI's stake in SBI to the Government.

Source: Compiled from Expenditure Budget (Vol. I & II), Union Budget, GoI, various years.



National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development

8

National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development

8.1 Established in 1966, National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) is an apex institution engaged in promoting voluntary action, research, training and documentation in the overall domain of child development and welfare, women empowerment and related issues. The Institute functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

8.2 The ultimate objective of the Institute is to promote voluntary action in social development with emphasis on need-based programmes for the holistic development of child and for creating awareness about gender issues and women rights - political, social and economic.

8.3 In pursuance of above objectives, the Institute conducts research and training programmes, seminar/workshops, conferences etc. on different aspects of public cooperation, child development and women empowerment. The Institute is also an apex body for training of functionaries of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme. It has been providing technical advice and consultancy to government and voluntary agencies and implementing policies and programmes for child development and voluntary action. The Institute also collaborates with regional, national and international agencies, universities, research institutions, and technical bodies.

8.4 The partnership with national and international agencies has widened the vision of the Institute in making its training and research activities more relevant to the needs of its clients. The Institute is continuously strengthening its research base on issues of women and child development, developing its academic capabilities, expanding its contacts with voluntary organisations to enhance exchange of voluntary initiatives, undertaking innovations in training methodologies, designing and revising of training curricula and monitoring the situation of women and children in the country. Its Headquarters and four Regional Centres continue to build up capacities of the child care functionaries and civil society organisations and promote voluntary action. Besides, the Headquarter organises programmes sponsored by various international agencies such as WHO, USAID, UNIFEM, UNESCO, UNICEF, etc. The Institute also undertakes research and training activities sponsored by various Central Ministries and the State Governments. The Regional Centres also take up projects at the request of State Governments.

8.5 Collaborative programmes and projects with other specialised agencies is yet another area of the Institute. The Institute and its Regional Centres have also been identified as a nodal agency for Early Childhood Care and Development, Childline Services, etc.

8.6 The two constitutional bodies of the Institute are: General Body and the Executive Council. The General Body formulates policy for management and administration of the Institute. The Union Minister of State for Women and Child Development is President of the General Body and Chairman of the Executive Council. There are also committees to oversee academic programmes and administrative matters.

8.7 The activities of the Headquarters of the Institute are carried out through two Departments, viz. Department of Mother and Child Care and the Department of Training and Common Services. Each Department is headed by an Additional Director as an administrative head who is responsible for providing academic inputs to its activities and programmes. Presently there are five programme divisions, viz. (i) Public Cooperation, (ii) Child Development, (iii) Women's Development, (iv) Training, and (v) Monitoring and Evaluation, each supervised by a Joint Director. The Documentation Centre of the Institute on Women and Children (DCWC) is a specialised documentation and reference centre, which disseminates information on children and women both within the country and abroad.

8.8 The Institute has four regional centres located at Bangalore, Guwahati, Lucknow and Indore which cater to the region-specific needs in training, research and consultancy in the areas of women empowerment, child development and voluntary action.

8.9 The Institute is supported by a well qualified multi-disciplinary faculty equipped with appropriate skills to generate innovative ideas on various issues related to women and children. Many faculty members, by virtue of their academic or professional contribution have been able to carve a niche for themselves both at national and international level.

Programmes and Activities

8.10 The Institute conducts training programmes under three broad categories, namely (i) *regular*

training programmes, (ii) *training of ICDS functionaries*, and (iii) *training programmes under other projects*, in the areas of Public Cooperation, Child Development, Women's Empowerment and related issues.

Regular Programmes

8.11 Under regular training programmes, the Institute organises orientation/training courses and workshops/seminars for representatives of voluntary organisations and officials of government departments engaged in implementation of programmes of mother care, child development and women's empowerment. The Institute also conducts programmes on subjects of topical interest in these fields to highlight the role of voluntary organisations and government departments in tackling emerging social problems including those having a bearing on welfare and development of children and women and strengthening the service delivery system.

8.12 The Institute has been consistently trying to maximize the outreach of its regular programmes for officials and non-officials engaged in the area of women and child development with the available resources. The Institute progressively extends its target groups and areas of concern. The Institute has expanded its areas of coverage, inter-alia, early childhood care and development, adolescent development and health, juvenile justice system, trafficking among women and children, domestic violence and gender budgeting. The Institute has also started the third course on Advanced Diploma in Child Guidance and Counselling, a one-year programme, from August 2007.

8.13 During 2007-08 (till November 2007), the Institute organized 92 programmes against the annual target of 90 programmes. 2702 participants attended these programmes against the target of 2700 participants for the year. The Institute undertook several new initiatives in making its training programmes more interesting and effective.

Summary of programmes and list of programmes organized by the Institute during 2007-08 (till January, 2008) are at **Annexure-XXIX** and **XXX**, respectively.

Strengthening Social Organisations

8.14 Voluntary organisations working at the grassroots level have little or no access to information regarding programmes and schemes of development for women and children. They also lack professional and technical skills. The Institute, with its mandate to promote and strengthen voluntary action in the country organized series of programmes at its Headquarters and Regional Centres. These programmes were organized in the diverse fields like establishing and managing a voluntary organisation, community mobilization and participation, project formulation, legal regulations, financial management, procedures for seeking financial assistance and good governance.

8.15 So far the Institute has organised two training programmes on ***Establishing and Managing a Voluntary Organisation***; four programmes each on ***Capacity Building of Voluntary Organisations in Financial Management and Financial Reporting***; and ***Procedures for Seeking Financial***

Assistance from Governmental and Non-Governmental Sources; and three programmes each on ***Planning and Designing Project Proposals***; ***Good Governance in Voluntary Organisations***; ***Mobilising and Management of Community Resources*** and ***Project Formulation and Management***. In all, 668 participants from voluntary organisations attended the programmes.

Participatory Learning and Action (PLA)

8.16 Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) is a flexible, innovative and non structured method of planning and designing programmes, which has the ability to change attitudes and lives of people in the community. These approaches are in sharp contrast to the one in which programmes and projects aimed at welfare and development of the poor are initiated, designed and implemented from top to down by implementing agencies without the consultation and involvement of the intended beneficiaries. To build the capacity of NGOs in using PLA techniques, Regional Centre Bangalore and Guwahati organized two Skill Training programmes each on the ***Techniques of Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) for the Functionaries of Voluntary Organisations***. In all, 134 participants attended the programmes.

Major Initiatives of 2007-08

- Strengthening Social Organisations
- Management of Creche Services
- Early Childhood Care and Development
- Understanding and Counselling Children
- Prevention of Micronutrient Malnutrition
- Care and Protection of Children
- Sensitisation of PRI Members on issues like child marriage, female foeticide, domestic violence etc.
- Gender Sensitisation Training
- Prevention of Gender Based Violence
- Gender Planning and Mainstreaming
- Empowerment of Women
- Sensitisation Programme on Female Foeticide and Infanticide for functionaries of voluntary organisation
- Parental Counselling Workshops
- Training on Counselling of Victims of Trafficking

Integrated Micro Planning

8.17 An **Orientation Course on Integrated Micro-Planning for Women and Children of Weaker Sections** was organized by Headquarters. The main objectives of the programme were to: familiarize the participants to the concept of micro-planning to evolve participatory development methodology; sensitize them to the problems of women and children belonging to weaker sections; enable them to evolve a module for integrated micro-planning involving the community; and facilitate evolving a developmental action plan describing approaches and strategies. Twenty four participants attended the programme.

Early Childhood Care and Development

Management of Creche Services

8.18 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) is considered as an important input for the sound growth and development of children. Last few decades have seen an unprecedented expansion of ECCE services and crèche services both in government and private sector. In order to enhance the capabilities of functionaries in effective implementation and management of creche programme, the Institute organized four **Orientation Courses on Management of Crèche Services for Voluntary Organisations**. The objectives of the courses were to: orient the participants about the role of crèches in providing early childhood care; develop better understanding of various aspects of child development; equip them with skills for effective management, supervision and monitoring of the crèches. In all 99 participants of voluntary organisations attended the programme.

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)

8.19 The experimental activity alongwith proper nutrition and health care in the ECCE programme is fundamental to the fulfillment of the child's

right to life to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to the right to achieve full development potential without any discrimination. In the last few decades there has been unprecedented growth of ECCE centres run by voluntary organisations. Regional Centre Bangalore organized an **Orientation Programme on Effective Management of ECE Programme for Senior Personnel of Social Organizations of Southern States**. The objectives of the programme were to: sensitize and orient the participants to the needs of children; create awareness on the nature of services and its delivery; orient them on the effective organization of ECCE centers; and appraise them about the minimum standards for ECE centers.

8.20 Also the Institute's Headquarters and Regional Centres at Lucknow and Guwahati organised **Orientation Training on Prevention and Early Detection of Developmental Disabilities for Social Organisations** with the objectives to: orient the participants about the prevalence, type and incidence of childhood disability; create awareness about early detection and early stimulation; sensitize them to the need for rehabilitation for children with disability; and enable them to workout community-based approaches for prevention and management of disabilities. 105 representatives of voluntary organisations attended the programme.

Child Guidance and Counselling

8.21 In recent years, there has been overwhelming demand for counselling interventions for children and adolescents. Children are being subjected to extremely stressful and life altering situations on account of misplaced emphasis on achievement; strains of modern living and social and economic disadvantages. All of these young people – those facing the brunt of new form of psychosocial trauma as well as those encountering exploitative situations such as abuse, domestic violence etc. would benefit tremendously from professional counselling and guidance services. Unfortunately,

the counselling and guidance services for children have not expanded in response to the demand. One of the key reasons for limited services has been lack of availability of trained mental health professionals in the country.

Advanced Diploma in Child Guidance and Counselling

8.22 The Institute at its Headquarters initiated a one year regular Advanced Diploma in Child Guidance and Counselling with a vision to bridge the gap of trained professionals for undertaking guidance and counselling interventions with children and their families in different settings. The course has been designed to enable the learner to assess and plan preventive, promotive and therapeutic need-based and milieu specific mental health programmes in schools and communities with children and adolescents. The course is being transacted with emphasis on ‘development of self’ and ‘acquisition of skills’ through experiential and action learning. Two batches of 13 and 18 students have successfully completed the course. In August 2007, 12 students have been enrolled after rigorous process of selection, comprising entrance examination and personal interview.

Understanding and Counselling Children

8.23 There is a growing incidence of behavioural problems in children who face tremendous pressures at school, family and with peers. Parents and teachers need support to address developmental concerns of children and adolescents and also to develop confidence in their child-rearing roles. Sensing the need of the hour, the Institute conducted 12 **Workshops for Parents on Understanding Children**. The specific objectives of the workshops were to: explore attitudes and skills related to creating a nurturing environment; orient parents to the need and importance of early detection of behavioural problems of children, and enable them to make better decisions related to specific issues of concern. In all, 348 parents attended the workshops. In order to sensitise

teachers towards their role in **Understanding and Managing Children with Behavioural Problems** the Institute organized 3 workshops at its Regional Centre at Bangalore. 107 teachers participated in the workshops.

8.24 An **Orientation Course on Counselling and Case Intervention for the Functionaries of Childline Project** was organized by Regional Centre Guwahati. The objectives of the course were to: orient the participants on different needs of children; acquaint them with the concepts and techniques of counselling; make them aware of case intervention techniques; and sensitize them about their role in providing necessary relief to the children in need of care and protection. 26 functionaries of Childline attended the programme.

Care and Protection of Children

8.25 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has formulated a new centrally sponsored scheme **Integrated Child Protection Scheme** by combining its existing child protection schemes. The scheme brings together multiple vertical schemes under one comprehensive child protection programme and integrates interventions for protecting children and preventing harm. It aims to create a protective environment by strengthening structures and professional capabilities at national, state and district levels so as to cover all child protection issues and provide child friendly services at all levels. NIPCCD has been designated as the nodal organisation by MWCD for spearheading child protection training, capacity building and research and documentation.

8.26 One of the major concerns of the ICPS is that professionals providing services for children should be competent and they should be bound by professional standards. With this in view an **Orientation Workshop on Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)** for NIPCCD faculty, Ministry of Women and Child Development Staff, CARA and CIF Functionaries working

on Child Protection Issues was organised by Headquarters. The main objectives of the workshop were to: sensitise and orient the participants to child protection issues, various legislative and constitutional safeguards, international conventions and standards; create awareness about the programmes and policies concerning child protection and the main features of the newly designed Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS); and enable them to develop an understanding of their roles and responsibilities under ICPS in organisation of training and in programme implementation. 31 participants attended the workshop. **Sensitisation Programme on Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act 2000 and its Amendment Act 2006** were also organised at the Regional Centre, Bangalore, Guwahati and Indore. In all, 85 participants attended these programmes. Four **Regional/State Level Consultation Meets of Members of CWCs and State Officials** were also organized by the Headquarters and Regional Centres located at Bangalore, Guwahati and Lucknow. In all, 127 participants attended the consultation meets.

Child Rights, Policies and Legislation

8.27 Since the ICPS brings several child protection programmes under one umbrella and initiates new interventions, it is necessary to reorient the selected master trainers. They included those who were earlier trained through National Institute of Social Defence (NISD), the new trainers specially the NIPCCD faculty and the consultants likely to be appointed for carrying out the tasks of training. Keeping this in view the Institute organized a one week **Training of Trainers (TOT) on Child Rights and Protection** at its Regional Centre, Lucknow. Twenty-two trainers were trained.

Child Marriage

8.28 Child marriage has been universally recognised as a harmful customary practice that

violates the rights of children and hence needed to be reformed. The issue of child marriage is seldom examined from the human rights perspective. In this context two **Sensitization Programmes on Prevention of Child Marriages in India for the Functionaries of Voluntary Organisations** were organized. In all 44 participants attended the programmes.

Child Adoption

8.29 It has been noted that there is no single regulatory authority, which covers both formal and private adoptions in the country. With this in view Regional Centre, Guwahati organized an **Orientation Training on Legislations Relating to Adoption and Guardianship for Government Officials and Functionaries of NGOs** with the objectives to: sensitize the participants about legislations related to adoption; create awareness about various schemes of assistance; and acquaint them with procedural aspects of adoption as per the revised guidelines and role of NGOs and state government in promoting in-country adoption. 37 participants attended the programme.

Management of Child Care Institutions

8.30 Child Care Institutions have been established by Government and voluntary organisations for the care and development of destitute and delinquent children. The objectives of Child Care Institutions are to provide care, protection, treatment, and rehabilitation to these children. However, it has been observed that functionaries of voluntary organisations running childcare institutions lack knowledge and skill required for management of these institutions. In view of this, Regional Centre, Lucknow organized an **Orientation Course on Management of Child Care Institutions for the Executives of Voluntary Organizations**. The objectives of the programme were to orient participants about needs and problems of children and equip them with knowledge and skill for proper assessment, intervention and rehabilitation of children. 27 participants attended the course.

Nutrition and Health Education (NHE)

8.31 Nutrition education of the people has been recognised as one of the most important tool for nutrition promotion in the country. Realising the importance of nutrition education the Ministry of Women and Child Development started nutrition education and extension services through Community Food and Nutrition Extension Units (CFNEU). These units equipped with mobile vans, audio visual aids and technically trained personnel impart nutrition education in rural, urban and tribal areas. In order to increase their efficiency in training and imparting nutrition education, Headquarters and Regional Centre, Bangalore organized two **Training Programmes on Nutrition Education and Extension for Laboratory Assistants and Technical Assistants of FNB**. The main objectives of the training were to: orient the participants to the recent developments in NHED and communication related to young child and women; and build their capacity with necessary techniques and skills to bring about behaviour change in health

and nutrition of young children and women. 32 participants attended the training.

Sensitization of Members of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) on Issues Relating to Women and Children

8.32 With the introduction of three tier structure of local self government and formation of panchayats with elected people's representatives, emphasis has been laid on involvement of the members of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) in all kinds of development efforts at the grassroots level. Along with other spheres of development, the elected members of Panchayati Raj bodies effectively contribute to women and child development initiatives both at the government and the non-government sector. This, however, demands adequate knowledge on the part of the elected members on various issues pertaining to women and children, acquaint them with government policies and programmes for empowerment of women and children and their role as elected representatives of Panchayati Raj bodies in



Sensitizing Trainers of PRIs against female foeticide

improving the status of women and children. Keeping this in view, the Institute organized five **Orientation Training Programmes for Elected Women Representatives of Panchayati Raj Bodies on Issues Related to Women and Children** at its Headquarters and all Regional Centres. In all 168 elected representatives attended the programme.

Gender Sensitization

8.33 With the growing awareness about the crucial role women play in the overall development scenario the issue of gender equality assumes much more significance. There is a need to sensitize members of society towards gender issues, especially the law makers, members of parliament and legislative assemblies, law enforcement agencies, educators and administrators. With this backdrop a **Workshop on Critical Issues relating to Women for Representatives of Women's Studies and Development Centres** was organized by Headquarters with the objectives to: sensitize the participants about various critical issues relating to women; enhance their knowledge base on important legislations and policies/programmes of women's development; sensitize them to the concept of gender budgeting and its application; and apprise them of the strategies for empowerment of women. A **Gender Sensitization Training for Police Officers** was also organized by Regional Centre, Lucknow. Another training programme on **Gender Sensitization with Emphasis on Developing Equality between Men and Women** was organized by Headquarters in collaboration with BAHA'I Office for the Advancement of Women (BOAW), New Delhi. The main objectives of the programme were to: enhance the awareness level in men and women about equality and develop understanding of the benefits of equality; increase their capacities to replicate the awareness-raising process with their colleagues, co-workers and friends, at home and community; and identify specific actions that

call for equality between men and women as well as promotes unity among them. Twenty five participants attended the programme.

Prevention of Gender Based Violence

8.34 Gender based violence is a universal phenomenon which is manifested in different forms throughout the life cycle of women. Millions of girls are missing from India's population as a result of systemic gender discrimination in India in the form of female foeticide and infanticide. In recent years the issues related to domestic violence are no more considered as private issue; rather it has been recognised as a social and human rights issue. Sexual harassment infringes the fundamental right of women to render equality and live and work with dignity. The issue of trafficking in women and children has emerged as the worst form of violation of human dignity and human rights today. In order to prevent the above mentioned problems of violence against women, the Institute organized several programmes such as **Orientation Courses on Legislations Related to Women** for the Functionaries of Voluntary Organisations. Many interventions have been initiated in India to prevent violence against women. The latest enactment of 'Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005' is a major milestone in this direction. Keeping in view the importance of the issue, the institute organized an **Orientation Programme on Domestic Violence: Role of Service Providers** and two **Workshops on Combating Domestic Violence**. The objectives of the programmes were to: discuss causes and consequences of domestic violence; share provisions under 'Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005'; work out strategies for combating domestic violence; discuss the role of different agencies and service providers in curbing domestic violence. 120 participants attended the programmes. A **Sensitization Programme on Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Work Place** was organized at Regional Centre, Bangalore in order to discuss existing mechanisms and support services for

dealing with the problem; and work out strategies for prevention of sexual harassment of women at work place.

8.35 The Institute also organized three **Sensitization Programmes on Prevention of Female Foeticide and Infanticide** for the functionaries of voluntary organizations, medical and para-medical professionals and elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions at the Headquarters and Regional Centre Lucknow and Indore. The main objectives of the programme were to: sensitize the participants on issues of gender violence with special reference to female foeticide and infanticide; provide insights on the policies and legislations to curb female foeticide and infanticide; and identify strategies for strengthening the existing mechanism to curb these practices.

District Level Advocacy Campaign against Female Foeticide

8.36 There is a decline in child (0-6) sex ratio from 945 in 1991 to 927 female children per 1000 male children in 2001. The states worst affected by this skewed sex ratio are Punjab (798), Haryana (820), Himachal Pradesh (896), Gujarat (883), Uttarakhand (908), Delhi (868) and Chandigarh (845). There is a need to create awareness about prevention of female foeticide and sex determination in these areas, keeping in view that a combination of monitoring, education campaigns and effective legal implementation can only help overcome the deep-rooted practices of female foeticide. It is at this backdrop that the Institute organized **District Level Advocacy Campaign against Female Foeticide** in twenty-five villages in Shahabad block of Kurukshetra with the support of Department of Women and Child Development, Govt. of Haryana. The objectives of the campaign were to: create awareness about the ills of female foeticide; inform people about various legislations to prevent female foeticide; advocate gender equity and strategies to be adopted to curb the problem and synergize government of Haryana's

initiative to promote women oriented programmes. Approximately five thousand people including men, women, adolescent girls/boys, ICDS functionaries, health functionaries, panchayat officials, etc. participated in the advocacy campaign.

Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children

8.37 Despite a number of measures initiated by the Government as well as by some voluntary organisations, the issue of trafficking in women and children has emerged as the worst form of violation of human dignity and human rights today. In order to develop meaningful strategies to prevent trafficking of women and children, it was felt appropriate to have interactive dialogue with those concerned with the issue, particularly from voluntary and government sectors, law enforcement agencies, activists, etc. Keeping this in view, the Headquarters and Regional Centres Bangalore and Guwahati organized **Orientation Courses on Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children** for representatives of voluntary organisations and police officials. The broad objectives of the programmes were to: discuss the magnitude, causes and consequences of trafficking of women and children; analyse various measures initiated to prevent the problem; discuss legal provisions and support services for rescue and rehabilitation of trafficked women and children; and suggest ways and means to prevent trafficking of women and children. Fifty representatives of PRIs, 33 police officials and 32 representatives of NGOs and Government functionaries attended the programmes.

8.38 A **Training on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for SAARC Countries** was also organised by Headquarters. The main objectives of the training were to: familiarise the participants on the state of trafficking human beings with particular reference to Asia and South Asia; make them aware of the extent of trafficking in women and children for

commercial sexual exploitation; orient them on the strategies that are required to be adopted for preventing and combating trafficking of human beings; impart knowledge on legal structure and law enforcement measures adopted in India against trafficking and exploitation; familiarise them with relief and rehabilitation measures for victims rescued; and showcase best models/practices in India and the region. Eight delegates from SAARC countries attended the training.

Counselling Skills and Support Services for the Counsellors of Women Helplines

8.39 Counsellors of Women-Helplines lack adequate orientation to the legal aid, rehabilitation, counselling and other support services for women in distress. With this in view, the institute organized five **Orientation Training Courses on Counselling Skills and Support Services for the Counsellors of Helplines**, one each at New Delhi, Bangalore and two at Guwahati and Indore. The objectives of the programme were to: create awareness about problems faced by women in distress; equip them with counselling skills; familiarise them with the existing support services and networking with other NGOs and Institutions working for women in distress. In all, 137 participants attended the programme.

Gender Planning and Mainstreaming

8.40 It has been realized that development programmes that are not gender just, do not benefit women and rather disadvantage them. Development strategies require an entirely new way of thinking in which the stereotyping of women and men no longer limits their choices. Keeping this in view Regional Centre, Guwahati organised **Training Programme for Voluntary Organisations on Mainstreaming Gender Issues for Social Development**. The objectives of the programme were to: enable the participants to develop clear perspectives on gender analysis; understand link between gender and development; enable them to acquire necessary knowledge and

skills for gender planning and work out strategies for gender mainstreaming; and discuss various ways and means of women's empowerment. 40 participants attended the programme.

8.41 **A Sensitization Programme on Budget for Gender Equality** was organized at the Headquarters with the objectives to: sensitize the participants on the concept and the need for gender-based approach for budgeting; apprise them of its positive contributions to the economic and social development of the country; orient them on the tools of gender budgeting and monitoring mechanism; and enable the participants to dovetail gender budget concept in projects and programmes to be undertaken by them. 19 participants attended the programme.

Empowerment of Women- Economic Empowerment

8.42 Micro enterprise development fosters the economic status of women as a powerful tool for poverty eradication. The voluntary agencies can organize poor women around the group activities based on local resources and market, help in project formulation, financial management, marketing etc. Keeping this in view the Institute organized two **Orientation Courses on Micro Enterprise Development for Women** at Guwahati and Indore for representatives of voluntary organisations with the objectives to: acquaint participants to the importance of economic empowerment of women; enable them to identify viable micro-enterprise activities for women and understand management of micro-enterprises; provide necessary information on marketing and other support to strengthen the micro-enterprise; and impart skills on preparation of business plan dovetailing gender issues. 93 participants attended the programme.

8.43 Self-Help Group (SHG) is considered as an important process of empowerment for women at grassroots level. Two **Orientation Courses on**

Formation of SHGs were organized for voluntary organisations with the objectives to: create awareness about the policies and programmes for women with special reference to economic empowerment; develop skills in formation and management of SHGs; orient them about financial management; and mobilise them as animators and catalysts in formation of SHGs. In all, 77 participants attended the programme.

8.44 Training Programme on Formation of Cluster and Federation for Voluntary Organisations on Promoting SHGs for Women Empowerment was also organized with the objectives to orient the participants to the concept, need and steps involved in formation of cluster level association; enhance their knowledge on the diversified function of cluster and federation; and orient them to various models of cluster and federations and their functioning. 36 participants attended the programme.

Strengthening Programmes/Schemes Related to Women and Children

8.45 In order to enhance managerial skills for implementation, coordination, supervision and evaluation of the Swadhar and Short Stay Homes schemes the Institute organized an **Orientation Course on Swadhar and Short Stay Homes for representatives of voluntary organisations**. The programme also aimed at helping the participants to analyze problems and constraints and work out strategies for better implementation of the schemes. 24 participants attended the programme.

Coordination and Convergence of Programmes

8.46 The programmes of the health sector and those of women and children are functionally linked to each other in terms of logistics, communication, Management Information System (MIS), training, administration, etc. Achieving the goals set in National Health Policy, National

Population Policy and National Plan of Action for Children would be possible only when effective linkages are established for cooperation and coordination. To address these issues an **Orientation of District Programme Officers on Coordination/Interface of ICDS with other Allied Departments** was organized by Regional Centre, Bangalore with the objectives to: identify the areas of coordination amongst various Departments to strengthen services for women and children under ICDS; and delineate the role of Programme Officers in strengthening the network of Services for women and children. 30 participants attended the programme.

Right to Information Act

8.47 An Orientation Course on Awareness Building for Senior Representatives of Voluntary Organizations on Right to Information (RTI) Act was organized by Regional Centre Lucknow with the objectives to: enable participants to understand various aspects of the RTI Act; acquaint the participants with the procedure and process of seeking information from public offices; and enable participants to disseminate information on RTI to the larger community. 39 participants attended the orientation course.

Upgrading the Skills of NIPCCD Faculty

8.48 In order to keep the faculty and staff at the cutting edge of knowledge in their fields of expertise, from time to time they are deputed to various programmes/ seminars/ workshops by reputed professional institutions. An **Orientation Course for NIPCCD Faculty on Statistical Method and Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS)** was organized by Headquarters in collaboration with National Institute of Medical Statistics(NIMS). The main objective of the course was to develop the skills of NIPCCD faculty in use of various statistical methods and Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). 12 faculty members of the Institute attended the course.

Child Guidance Centre (CGC)

8.49 The Institute is running Child Guidance Centres (CGCs) at its Headquarters and Regional Centres located at Bangalore, Guwahati and Lucknow. These Centres provide diagnostic, therapeutic and referral services to children upto 14 years of age with developmental, learning and behavioural problems including childhood disabilities. Each centre extends the services through a multidisciplinary team comprising social worker, psychiatrist, child development worker, special educator, clinical psychologist and speech therapist.

8.50 During the year (April – January, 2008), around 192 new cases were registered for assessment, counselling and therapeutic interventions at the Headquarters and Regional Centres. The dominant problems that were diagnosed were: Learning Disability; Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorders, Childhood Autism and Asperger's Syndrome, Minimal Brain Damage, Developmental Delays, Mental

Retardation, Borderline Intelligence and Speech and Language problems.

Adolescent Guidance Service Centre (AGSC)

8.51 In order to give impetus to the hitherto neglected areas of planning for mental health of adolescents, the Institute during the year 2003-04 started an Adolescent Guidance Service Centre at its Headquarters with the specific objective of reaching out to adolescents with counselling and psycho-social interventions through a comprehensive adolescent guidance programme.

8.52 During the year, the Adolescent Guidance Service Centre continued to make progress to address the needs of adolescents in the age group of 10-19 years of age. On one hand, the team of professionals ventured out to the nearby schools to conduct life skills education programme and supportive counselling interventions. On the other hand, adolescents requiring in-depth counselling were provided service at the AGSC of the Institute



National Consultations-Evolving a system of grading Anganwadis

by a multi-disciplinary team of professionals comprising social worker, clinical psychologist, child development worker and psychiatrist.

Programmes/Activities under ICDS Training

8.53 Being an apex institution for training of functionaries of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme, NIPCCD is responsible for planning, organizing, coordinating and monitoring training; building capacities of institutions engaged in training; organizing training of trainers; designing, revising and standardizing syllabi for training of all categories of ICDS functionaries; preparation of training modules and developing, procuring and distributing training materials including audio-visual aids. The Institute also provides technical support and feedback to MWCD on training of ICDS functionaries.

8.54 Training of Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) and Assistant Child Development Project Officers (ACDPOs) is organised at NIPCCD Headquarters and its four Regional Centres located at Bangalore, Indore, Guwahati and Lucknow. Besides, NIPCCD Headquarters and its Regional Centres also organise Training of Trainers of Anganwadi Training Centres (AWTCs) and Middle Level Training Centres (MLTCs).

8.55 The status of training of CDPOs, ACDPOs, Trainers and other related tasks is presented in the following paragraphs.

(i) **Training of ICDS Functionaries : Job Training Course (JTC) for Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) / Assistant Child Development Project Officers (ACDPOs):** The CDPOs/ ACDPOs are provided initial Job Training at NIPCCD Headquarters and its Regional Centres. During the year 2007-08 (upto January, 2008), the Institute organized 9 Job Training

Courses for CDPOs/ACDPOs and 246 CDPOs/ ACDPOs were trained.

(ii) **Refresher Course for CDPOs/ACDPOs:** In order to share generic information as well as latest developments in the field of ICDS, refresher courses are organised from time to time for CDPOs/ACDPOs to enhance their supervisory, monitoring and liaison skills for effective coordination and convergence of services at the Anganwadi Centres. During the year under report, 374 CDPOs/ACDPOs received refresher training in 15 courses organised at the Headquarters and Regional Centres at Bangalore, Lucknow, Guwahati and Indore.

(iii) **Training of Trainers: Training of Trainers of ICDS Functionaries of Tripura:** A Training of Trainers of ICDS Functionaries of Tripura was organized by Regional Centre Guwahati at the request of Tripura Government. In all 35 trainers of ICDS functionaries attended the training.

(iv) **Refresher Course for Instructors of MLTCs:** Two Refresher Courses for Instructors of MLTCs were organised by the Institute at the Headquarters and Regional Centre Bangalore during the year (upto January, 2008) and 23 instructors of MLTCs/AWTCS were trained.

(v) **Skill Training Programmes for Trainers:** NIPCCD Headquarters and Regional Centres organized skill training programmes for the Instructors of MLTCs/AWTCS. In all 24 skill training programmes were organized to train 468 trainers of MLTCs/AWTCS in the following areas:

- Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses (IMNCI)
- Recent Developments in Nutrition and Health Care of Children and Women

- Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) Techniques
- Training Technology
- Effective Supervisory and Managerial Skills
- Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) and Counselling
- Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children, HIV/AIDS and Counselling
- Emotional Intelligence (EI), Communication and Counselling Skills
- Community Mobilization and Participation
- Nutrition and Health Education
- Prevention of Child Marriage and Female Foeticide

(vi) **Other Training Programmes:** In addition to the above, the Institute organized the following Workshops/ Consultation Meets/ Training/ Sensitization Programmes under ICDS which was attended by 240 participants.

- Workshop on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) for Trainers of AWTCs/ MLTCs of Southern States
- Sensitization Programme for ICDS Functionaries and Trainers on Early Detection and Prevention of Disabilities
- Workshop on Preparation of Workbook for Preschool Children in ICDS
- Joint Training of ICDS and Health Functionaries on Issues related to Women and Children
- Consultation Meet to Evolve Uniform System of Rating/Grading of Anganwadi Centres
- Orientation of State Programme Officers and Deputy Directors dealing with ICDS

- Refresher Training for Instructors of District Mobile Training Team (DMTT) of Uttar Pradesh
- Orientation Training for Counselling of Adolescent Girls on Family Life Education for Instructors of AWTCs/MLTCs

Sponsored Programmes/Other Projects

8.56 The Institute in the past has been organizing a number of training programmes, workshops, review meetings etc. at the request of various national and international organisations such as World Bank, UNICEF, CAPART, TRIFED, CIF, State governments etc. During the year 2007-08 also, the institute organized a number of programmes which were sponsored by such agencies. The details of these programmes are given in the following paragraphs.

8.57 Recognising the useful role of the Institute as a Lead Training Agency for Swashakti Project, the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India selected the Institute as the Lead Training Agency (LTA) for Swayamsiddha, a national level empowerment programme for women launched in 2001. The LTA-Swayamsiddha is expected to perform the multiple roles of programme supporter, training provider and extend monitoring and evaluation support for training. The highlights of the initiatives taken by LTA-Swayamsiddha project during 2007-08 are presented below.

Swayamsiddha (Review Meetings)

8.58 Two Quarterly Review Meetings/Exposure Visits of nodal officers of Swayamsiddha were organized by Headquarters at New Delhi and Kovalam, Kerala. In all 54 participants attended the meetings.

Research/Evaluation Studies, Documentation /Compilations

8.59 The Headquarters and its Regional Centres undertake research on areas falling within its mandate. Documentation of the research work in the form of reports, compilations and manuals is done for wider dissemination. During the year (upto January, 2008) the following research studies/projects were completed:

- Database on Voluntary Organisations: A Compilation (Vol.1)
- Statistics on Women in India 2007
- Women in Difficult Circumstances: Summaries of Research
- Voluntary Initiatives in Childline Services: A Case Study
- Evaluation of Pilot Project on Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children under General Grant-In-Aid Scheme
- Child Marriages in India - A Situational Analysis in Three States
- Statistics on Children in India: Pocket Book 2007
- Time Management by CDPOs: An Empirical Study for the State of Rajasthan

Documentation and Publications

8.60 Documentation Centre for Women and Children (DCWC), a special computerized research and reference centre, with a rich collection of published and unpublished documents (grey literature) on women and children, continued to function during the year. DCWC has a computerized Database of Documents and a Database of Organisations.

8.61 DCWC purchased 163 books, subscribed to 79 journals, including 16 foreign and 63 Indian

Journals, 40 magazines and 25 newspapers during the year. It also collected 700 unpublished documents during the current year. The Centre also brings out compilations related to women and children for wider dissemination. The regular publications are 'DCWC Research Bulletin' (quarterly), 'DCWC News clips' (monthly), 'DCWC Content Update' (quarterly) and 'DCWC New Additions' (quarterly). During the year, DCWC has completed the projects 'Statistics on Women in India 2007' and 'Women in Difficult Circumstances: Summaries of Research'.

Promotion of Use of Hindi

8.62 In order to promote use of Hindi during 2007-08 (till January, 2008) several measures were taken by the Institute. These includes:

- Incentive Scheme for original Hindi noting and drafting in official work from 1st April 2007 to 31st March 2008.
- Scheme of "Grant of Incentive Allowance" to Stenographers and Typists for doing their official work in Hindi in addition to English
- Cash Award Scheme for officers for giving dictation in Hindi for 2007-08.
- Meetings of Official Language Implementation Committee are being convened regularly
- During this period two Hindi workshops were organized to promote the use of Hindi in the Institute. Hindi Pakhwara was celebrated during 1-14 September, 2007.
- First sub Committee of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language inspected the Institute on 12th June 2007 regarding Implementation of Official Language.
- Besides the above, translation of the following documents was carried out during the period under report

- Minutes of the Meetings of General Body and Executive Council held during the year
- Review of Annual Report
- Annual Report 2006-07
- Audit Report and Annual Accounts
- Revision of Handbook for AWWs
- Material for Training Programme on Empowerment of Adolescents
- Monitoring of Creches running under Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for Children of working mothers
- Workshop on Child Marriages in India – Social, Legal and Human Rights Dimension
- Skill Training on Supervisory and Managerial Skill of Trainers of AWTCs/MLTCs
- Orientation Course on Methodologies grant in aid from Government and Non-Government Sources
- Skill Training Programme for AWTCs/MLTCs
- Orientation Programme for Implementation of Women related Government Schemes
- Skill Training Programme on Early Childhood Education for Instructors of AWTCs/MLTCs
- Training Programme on including Gender Prospects in Health and Nutrition Programmes
- National Seminar on Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children
- Workshop on Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children and HIV/AIDS



Central Social Welfare Board

9

Central Social Welfare Board

9.1 The Central Social Welfare Board was set up by a Resolution of Government of India dated 12th August 1953 with the object of promoting social welfare activities and implementing welfare programmes for women, children and the handicapped through voluntary organisations. Till 1969 the Board functioned as a limb of the Government and then it was registered as a charitable company under the Companies Act to give a legal status to the Board. The Board was given the dual responsibility of taking welfare services to the disadvantaged sections of society especially women & children, and also developing a nationwide infrastructure of voluntary agencies through which these services could be made available.

9.2 In 1954 the State Social Welfare Advisory Boards were set up in the States and Union Territories to implement the programmes of the Board and assist the Central Social Welfare Board in expansion and development of welfare services. The financial assistance to voluntary organisations under various schemes is given on the recommendations of the State Boards. Presently there are 33 State Boards

Structural Changes

9.3 In pursuance of recommendations of the Working Group set up to debate upon and recommend **decade perspective/vision statement of the Central Social Welfare Board, the Board**

has evolved its **vision statement** encompassing the following objectives:

The Board must

- Act as a **changemaker with a humanitarian approach** by reinforcing the **spirit of voluntarism**.
- Create an **enabling mechanism** to facilitate **networking** of committed social workers for the **empowerment** of women and children.
- Develop a **cadre of sensitive professionals** with a **gender centric vision committed** to equity, justice and social change.
- Recommend **gender specific policy initiatives** to meet the **new challenges** for women and children in emerging areas.
- Strengthen voluntary organisations and **expand coverage of 'engendered' schemes** in areas where they have not yet reached.
- Initiate and **strengthen its monitoring role** to act as **social audit** and guide for the voluntary sector so as to access Government funds as resource.
- Generate **awareness about the challenges of a society in transition** where **negative use of technologies and practices** are impacting on the wellbeing of women and children.

New Logo of The Board

9.4 The Executive Committee of the Central Social Welfare Board has approved a new logo which

reflects the image of an articulate woman and a healthy and protected girl-child.

Programmes of CSWB:

Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme For The Children of Working/Ailing Mothers

9.5 The Creche programme provides day care services to the children in the age group of 0-6 years belonging to lower income group families. The scheme was formulated to ensure that such children are given proper care even in the absence of their mothers. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to NGOs for setting up a Creche unit of 25 children.

9.6 As per the schematic pattern of assistance, Rs.42,384/- is provided for a year for one Creche and there is also a provision for a non-recurring grant of Rs.10,000/-for setting up new Creche unit and Rs.5,000/- per continuation unit after every five years for equipment.

9.7 During the year 2006-07, an amount of Rs.4892.65 lakh was released for running 18205 Creches covering 470500 beneficiaries. During the current financial year i.e. 2007-08, an amount of Rs.2255.31 lakh (as on 31.12.2007) has been released for running 10665 Creches which cover 244272 beneficiaries.



A Creche Center for Children of Working Mothers

Awareness Generation Programme (AGP)

9.8 The scheme of Awareness Generation Programme aims at generating awareness amongst women and community at large on rights, status and problems of women in particular and other social concerns. Under the scheme, camps are being organized, which provide a platform for women to come together to exchange their experiences and ideas and in the process develop an understanding of reality and also the way to tackle their problems and fulfill their needs. The programme of Awareness Generation Camps was introduced by the Central Social Welfare Board in the year 1986-87 with the main objective to identify the needs of rural and poor women and to increase women's active participation in development and other allied programmes.

9.9 The programme also orients them in a manner by which they can involve themselves in the effort to meet their felt needs in the area of social development. Issues such as the status of women, women and law, women and health, community health and hygiene, technology for women, environment and the economy are being taken up in camps. The programme also enables women to organize themselves and strengthen their participation in decision making in the family and in society and to deal with social issues including atrocities on women and children.

9.10 Training of organizers is an integral part of the scheme. Under the programme of Awareness Generation Camps, organizations are provided a grant of Rs.10,000/- for 8 days camps and two days follow up. During the year 2006-07, 1429 Awareness Generation Camps have been sanctioned and an amount of Rs.307.18 lakhs has been released benefiting 103220 women. In 2007-08, 2134 camps have been sanctioned and an amount of Rs.72.53 lakhs has been released upto 31.12.2007.

9.11 Statewise amount sanctioned/released and number of beneficiaries covered under AGP during 2006-07 and 2007-08 as on (31.12.2007) are at **Annexure-XXXI** and **Annexure-XXXIA**, respectively.



Women participating in an Awareness Generation Programme

Condensed Courses of Education For Women

9.12 The Scheme of Condensed Courses of Education was initiated by CSWB in 1958 – to cater to the needs of adult girls/women who could not join mainstream education system or who were drop outs from formal schools. The scheme aims to provide educational opportunities to girls/women above the age of 15 years along with additional inputs of skill-development/vocational training. The main focus of the scheme is to ensure that contents of the course are need-based and modified according to local requirement and simultaneously targeting towards various stages of educational levels of primary/middle/high school and matric/secondary level courses. The Condensed Course Programme gained immense popularity due to its flexible approach and combination of formal and non-formal structure. There has been persistent demand from State Boards and voluntary organizations to allocate at least one course for each block in the country.

9.13 The programme also aims at instilling confidence among adult women to gain strength and to enhance their accessibility to socio

economic processes. It is a useful programme to promote gender equality and empowerment to enable women to act as agents of change and development. During the year 2006-07, 683 courses have been sanctioned in order to benefit 17450 women.

9.14 Statewise amount sanctioned/released under the programme during 2006-07 and 2007-08 as on (31.12.2007) are at **Annexure-XXXII** and **Annexure-XXXII A** respectively.

Family Counselling Centres(Fcc)

9.15 The scheme of Family Counselling Centres was introduced by CSWB in 1983. The Centres provide counselling, referral and rehabilitative services to women and children who are victims of atrocities, family maladjustment and social ostracism and also provide crisis intervention and trauma counselling in case of natural disasters. The Centres also create awareness and mobilize public opinion on social issues affecting status of women. The FCCs work in close collaboration with the local administration, police, courts, free legal aid cells, medical and psychiatric institutions, vocational training centres and short stay homes

9.16 A grant of Rs.1.00 lakh per annum was earlier given to voluntary organizations for running the centres on an 80: 20 matching basis where the organization contributes 20% towards the running cost of the FCC. The budget includes honorarium of two counsellors who are postgraduates in social work/psychology and other recurring expenditure

9.17 The scheme was evaluated by Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai in March 2004 and a beneficiary oriented study was conducted in 2005. The Government has recently revised the financial norms of the Family Counselling Centre scheme, details of which are given below:-

- **Honorarium** for counselors @ Rs.7000/- p.m per counselor in 'A' class cities and Rs. 5500/- p.m per counselor in other cities.

- **Other expenses** @ Rs. 60,000 p.a for rent/maintenance, honorarium to experts, typist, peon, contingencies, TA/DA for visits, etc.
- Rs. 25000/- as **one-time grant** for non-recurring items at the time of starting of an FCC
- The institution is required to meet 20% of the expenditure sanctioned towards “other expenses” as its matching contribution

Family Counselling Centres for Special Categories of Clients

a) FCCs at Police Headquarters

9.18 Family Counselling Centres are being run in some Police Headquarters premises under the administrative control of the State Boards. These FCCs were established with the objective of providing speedy crisis intervention to those women whose cases were registered in Police Stations. Such FCCs attempt to arrive at out of court settlement of family discord cases. Thirty-four such FCCs are functioning in Police headquarters in the States of Kerala, West Bengal, Orissa, Pondicherry, Assam, Karnataka, Manipur, Maharashtra, Punjab, Nagaland, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Sikkim, Tamilnadu, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Goa.

b) FCCs in Mahila Jails

9.19 Twenty three FCCs are running in Mahila Jails in Delhi, Karnataka, West Bengal, Gujarat, Bihar, Orissa, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Chandigarh, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

c) Rape Crisis Intervention Centres

9.20 Two Rape Crisis Intervention Centres are functioning in Delhi and one in Mumbai. Rape crisis help lines are available 24 hours at these centres.

d) Pre-marital Counselling Centres

9.21 This new initiative of the Board is being implemented in the shape of 10 FCCs running in Women Development Centres at the various colleges in Delhi. These centres lay special emphasis on pre-marital counselling and other areas of psychosocial crises for young women.

e) Centres for Devdasis/Red Light Areas

9.22 At present there are 2 FCCs working for the welfare of Devdasis and sex workers and their children in Mumbai (Maharashtra) and Belgaum (Karnataka). The centres are set up with the objective of providing preventive services through awareness campaigns on STD, AIDS and other health and legal matters and also rehabilitative measures for children and other dependents of the prostitutes.

9.23 At present there are more than 800 Family Counselling Centres across the country of which 32 FCCs are running in Police headquarters, 27 FCCs in Mahila Jails besides special centres in Red Light areas. During 2007-08, 214 FCCs were sanctioned grants. These FCCs are run not only at the district / block level but also in police headquarters, mahila jails and red light areas. An amount of Rs. 640.62 lakhs was sanctioned under the programme.

9.24 The Govt. of India has recently passed the “Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005” which is to be implemented by the State Govts. in accordance with the orders and procedures stipulated in the Act. The Govt. of India has acknowledged the contribution of the FCCs and given this responsibility to the FCCs and its counsellors to function as service providers for providing assistance and counsellors to impart counselling to the aggrieved persons. Under this scheme, amount sanctioned/released and beneficiaries covered during 2006-07 and 2007-08

(up 31-12-07) are given in Annexure-XXXIII and Annexure XXXIII A.

Shelter to Women in Distress

Short Stay Homes For Women And Girls (SSH)

9.25 The scheme, launched in 1969, is meant to provide temporary accommodation, maintenance and rehabilitative services to women and girls suddenly rendered homeless due to family discord or crime. Grant-in-aid is provided under this scheme to voluntary organisations to run Short Stay Homes for such women and girls rendered homeless. Following categories of women and girls are eligible for staying in the Home :-

1. Those who are being forced into prostitution.
2. Those who as a result of family tension or discord are made to leave their homes without any means of subsistence and have no social protection from exploitation or are facing litigation on account of marital disputes.
3. Those who have been sexually assaulted and are facing the problem of re-adjustment in the family or society.
4. Victims of mental mal-adjustment, emotional disturbances and social ostracism.
5. Those who escape from their homes due to family problems, mental/physical torture and need shelter, psychiatric treatment and counselling for their rehabilitation and re-adjustment in family/society.

9.26 Temporary shelter to these women and girls from six months to three years with case work, counselling services, medical care and psychiatric treatment, skill development training, education, vocational and rehabilitative services are provided in the Short Stay Home.

9.27 A total number of 304 Homes have been sanctioned benefiting 40100 women, an amount

of Rs. 222.16 lakh (as on 31.12.2007) has been released for running the above Homes.

9.28 Statewise amount sanctioned/released and beneficiaries under the programme during 2006-07 and 2007-08 as on 31.12.2007 are at **Annexure-XXXIV** and **Annexure-XXXIV A**. Funds released to different organisations during 2007-08 (as on 19.3.2008) are in **Annexure-XLIII**

Support Services

Working Women's Hostels (WWH)

9.29 Central Social Welfare Board provides maintenance grants to voluntary organizations for running Hostels for Working Women belonging to the lower income group. The budget include honorarium for Matron, Chowkidar, difference between the rent realized from inmates and rent paid by institution, and one time grant for recreational facilities.

Mahila Mandals (MM)

9.30 The Mahila Mandals arrange activities for women and children in their respective areas. The expenditure under the scheme is borne by the Central Social Welfare Board to the extent of 75% of the approved budget and the remaining 25% is met by the Voluntary Organisations or by the State Government as their matching contribution. Under the programme, services like Balwadis for the children, craft activities, Social Education, maternity services for women etc. are provided. At present, there are 146 units running in 17 states covering 48752 beneficiaries under the Mahila Mandal Programme.

9.31 Statewise amount sanctioned/released during 2006-07 and 2007-08 as on (18.3.2008) are at **Annexure-XXXV** and **Annexure XXXV A**.

Innovative Schemes

9.32 Although the Central Social Welfare Board has many structured programmes and schemes for the development of women and children, there are several problems relating to women and children which are not fully covered within the existing schemes of the Board, therefore, Innovative Programme was launched by the Central Board. Several projects under the programme are being run for the welfare of children of prostitutes, rag pickers and children of leprosy patients etc which need special attention. Apart from above, campaigns have been launched for creating awareness against drug de-addiction, alcoholism etc. Counselling for the schoolgirls prone to depression due to fear of the future career prospects which consequently lead to suicide, needed special attention under Innovative Scheme.

9.33 Under this scheme, an institution is expected to prepare a project giving details of the area, the requirement of the proposed project, areas of intervention, methodology, tools, budget etc. There is no schematic budget for such projects; and the project proposal is prepared by voluntary organizations keeping in view the social necessities. No specific application forms are issued for this programme. However, voluntary organizations are advised to contact the State Social Welfare Board and submit their detailed project proposal through the State Board along with budget and details of activities to be organized. In the absence of a structured proforma, the State Boards have to prepare the project proposal along with comprehensive justification, which requires the inclusion of basic data.

Magazines of The Board Social Welfare and Samaj Kalyan

9.34 When the CSWB was set up, the Govt. of India decided that a monthly magazine on Social

Welfare should be published in order to sensitise the public about social problems, issues and concerns. The magazine was also envisioned as a platform for highlighting the activities of voluntary organisations working for the welfare of women, children and other disadvantaged groups.

9.35 The inaugural issue of 'Social Welfare' was released in April 1954. This was followed by the first issue of 'Samaj Kalyan' in Hindi in August 1955. The magazines are planned and edited independently to cater to the needs of their individual readership. Both magazines have the most extensively documented material on all the social problems in Indian society and they are referred to as resource material by students of social work.

Publicity and Public Relations

9.36 The Board carries out regular publicity of its activities and programmes through the audiovisual and print media. Press conferences are regularly organised to publicize the latest developments and events. The Board also organises **exhibitions** on special occasions.

9.37 The Board has commissioned several documentary films, such as 'Khel Khel Mein' – a film on respect for elders, a documentary on the life of Dr. Durgabai Deshmukh, films on the institutions that are awarded the Dr. Durgabai Deshmukh Award, spot films for telecast on Doordarshan etc. The CSWB has also producing a video film on a song "Apna Itihas Badalna Hai" on the issue of development of girl child and Empowerment of Women. The song was authored by Editor of Samaj Kalyan Magazine. Apart from its magazines, the Board publishes reports of seminars, conferences and evaluation studies. Yearly calendars on specific themes, folders, brochures and booklets about the programmes of the Board are published from time to time.

9.38 The Board has its own website where the latest information pertaining to programmes and

activities is posted. The website address is www.cswb.gov.in

Women's Helpline

9.39 Help Line is a project of Ministry of Women & Child Development and Central Social Welfare Board which is being implemented in collaboration with voluntary organizations working for the welfare of women and girls in distress. The scheme is operational from 2002-2003 onwards. Help Line is a 24 hours phone emergency outreach programme for women and girls in distress or in moral danger needing immediate protection and shelter. It responds to the need of such women and girls and links them to long term services as per their requirement and availability of services.

The objectives of the programme are as under:-

- To provide quality services to women and girls in need of special care and protection and to ensure that proper care is provided till they are rehabilitated.
- To provide Crisis Intervention Services.
- To provide referral services like Short Stay Home, Free Legal Aid, Police assistance, Counselling, Hospitalization etc.
- To arrange suitable rehabilitation service to the target group.
- To provide counselling.
- Awareness, opinion building and documentation.
- Documentation of the type of case being registered, to understand the trends in society.

9.40 The budget allocation of Women's Helpline for the year 2006-07 was Rs.62.8 lakhs of which an amount of Rs.58.1 lakhs was released to 31 Women's Helplines.

Monitoring Machinery of CSWB

9.41 The field staff of the Central Social Welfare Board in the cadres of **Project Officer, Asstt. Project Officer and Welfare Officer** is attached to the various State Social Welfare Boards to **supervise and monitor** the implementation of the various programmes. They also play a crucial role in mobilising and identifying the voluntary organisations and providing guidance to the voluntary organisations to develop their activities and programmes. The field officers provide feedback to the Central Social Welfare Board enabling the Central Board on programme implementation.

Monitoring of Board's Programmes And Task Force As A Pilot Project.

9.42 Central Board monitors its programmes through a designated field machinery. The officials of Govt. of India, State Govt. and Central Board also visit the voluntary organizations on regular intervals. Monitoring of programmes is also done through desk analysis of the progress reports and other documents received from VOs. In order to have an **independent evaluation/assessment of the functioning of VOs** with regard to achievement of desired objectives of the scheme, utilisation of funds, response of the beneficiaries and community at large, a pilot project **Task Force involving head of the Department/School of Social Work, renowned social worker of the area and a retired official of Central Board** has been constituted. The Task Force will also be involved to conduct an inquiry in case contrary reports are received regarding the functioning of voluntary organisations. The Task Force will be directly accountable to Central Board for their inspection reports and other issues. The Task Force at present is a Pilot Project.



Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson, UPA during launching of Integrated Scheme for Women's Empowerment (ISWE) at Guwahati

Major Events

Launch of Integrated Scheme For Women's Empowerment (ISWE)

9.43 Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson, UPA launched Integrated Scheme for Women's Empowerment (ISWE) evolved by Central Social Welfare Board for holistic development of Northeast Region targeting the economic empowerment and social development of the region at the **Purbottar Atamsiddha Sammelan - North-Eastern Women's Meet** organized by CSWB at Guwahati on 9th February 2007.

9.44 Sh. Tarun Gogoi, Chief Minister of Assam and Smt. Rajani Patil, Chairperson, CSWB were also present during the launch function..

9.45 The meet was attended by more than seventeen thousand women from all seven-sister States including Sikkim of Northeast.

Srinagar

‘KHAWATEEN-E-KASHMIR LEKAR HATHON-MEIN-HATH

RAAHE TARAQUI PE SATH-SATH'- WOMEN OF KASHMIR WALKING HAND-IN-HAND

ON THE PATH OF PROGRESS

9.46 This was the theme of the women's meet that was addressed on 10th September, 2007 by **Smt. Sonia Gandhi at Srinagar**. Shri Shivraj Patil, Hon'ble Minister for Home Affairs, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, Hon'ble Chief Minister of J&K, Shri Saif-u-Din Soz, Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources, Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Hon'ble MOS (I/C), MWCD, Shri Peerzada Mohd. Sayeed, Hon'ble Minister for Education, J&K, Ms. Mehbooba Mufti, Member of Parliament, Shri M.M. Jacob, Member CWC/In-charge J&K, Smt. Rita Bahuguna, President All India Mahila Congress, Shri Haji Nissar Ali Minister Social

Welfare, J&K attended the Meet besides other dignitaries and Social Workers. Shri N.K. Verma, Secretary Social Welfare, Director (Information), Shri O.P. Srohe, Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India, MWCD and officers from related State Departments were also present in the Meeting. The Meeting was conducted in **partnership with Govt. of J&K and J&K State Social Welfare Board.**

9.47 Smt Renuka Chowdhury, Hon'ble MOS (I/C), MWCD and Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, Chief Minister, J&K Ms Mehbooba Mufti, Member of Parliament and Smt. Rajani Patil, Chairperson, Central Social Welfare Board also addressed the gathering.

Satyagraha Shatabdi Parv

9.48 The United Nations has declared 2nd October as International Day of Non-Violence. Central

Social Welfare Board to commemorate this auspicious occasion is celebrating a yearlong "Satyagraha Shatabdi Parv" under which a series of programmes will be organized in each and every corner of the country. Under the guidance of Smt. Rajni Patil, Chairperson, Central Social Welfare Board the "Satyagraha Shatabdi Parv" was launched in Visnagar, Mehsana distt of Gujarat the birth state of Bapu. A Mahila Sammelan was organized in which 3000 women Voluntary Organisation participated from Mehsana, Banaskantha and Patan. The event was organised by Gujarat State Social Welfare Board and Mehsana District Mahila Utpadak and Vikas Sahakri Sangh, a voluntary organisation of Visnagar, Mehsana on 2nd October, 2007 at Gobind Patel Chaklawadi, Visnagar.

Vatsalya Mela

9.49 This year with the efforts of Ministry of Women & Child Development, Govt. of India and



Hon'ble MOS(I/C), MWCD being welcomed to Vatsalya Mela held from 14-27th November, 2007 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

all the related agencies under it, the **Vatsalya Mela** was made a part of the **International Trade Fair** and was held at Hall No.16, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 14th – 27th November, 2007. This is the **second Vatsalya Mela** organised by the Ministry, the first was held in Talkatora Stadium last year. 60 stalls were set up by 116 Self Help Groups and Non-Governmental agencies representing 22 States and Union Territories of India. Approximately 200 women from all strata of society and cultural background came together in this Hall and set up an eye-catching and attractive display of hand-made products ranging from bangles to mirror work and embroidered items like shawls and sarees to food products like pickles and masalas. A varied product range from different parts of the country starting from Jammu & Kashmir in the North, Gujarat in the West, Manipur and Tripura in the North-East and Karnataka and Andaman & Nicobar in the South were made available to a highly selective clientele at this Fair.

9.50 The Vatsalya Mela was inaugurated by **Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Minister of State for Women & Child Development (Independent Charge)** on 14th November, 2007 at 4.30 P.M. in a colourful programme where the beat of a drum at the lighting of the lamp heralded the traditional beginning of the Mela. This was attended by **Smt. Rajani Patil**, Chairperson, Central Social Welfare Board, **Dr. Girija Vyas**, Chairperson, National Commission for Women, **Shri Anil Kumar**, Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development and other dignitaries. It was followed by celebration in Shringar Theatre in the Pragati Maidan itself where the National Child Awards were given away at the hands of Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Minister of State for Women & Child Development (Independent Charge) in the presence of **Shri Janardhan Dwivedi**, Chairman, Standing Committee, Human Resource Development and **Smt. Shanta Sinha**, Chairperson, National Commission for Children and **Shri Gianni Murzi**, Country Head of UNICEF, New Delhi and other dignitaries.

9.51 The objective of this Mela is to provide a platform to needy Self Help Groups where they get an opportunity to display and sell their products and get exposure to market conditions and business opportunities in Delhi. It is a way of providing exposure to the Self Help Groups through a process of capacity building leading them to income generation activities and economic empowerment.

9.52 Central Social Welfare Board and Rashtriya Mahila Kosh which is an apex body giving micro finance to needy women, Food and Nutrition Board and NIPCCD worked together to set up the Mela as well as exhibition in the same pavilion which displayed information about policies, plans, schemes and programmes for women & children to the general public. On all days there were stage performances by different cultural troupes brought in by Central Social Welfare Board from Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Assam and Rajasthan as well as song and drama division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The **Ananya** song “**Apna Itihas Badlana Hai**” was also played each day carrying the message of enlightened women force in India, able to exercise their choices for the many options available to them today. This included folk and traditional dance, music, puppet shows, street plays, skits on some of the social evils concerning women and children in our society with an aim to creating awareness about issues like domestic violence, child rights, female foeticide, need to educate girl child, dowry and eve teasing.

9.53 On 20.11.2007 a special show of the Hindi movie “**Chak De India**” was organised in **Shakuntalam Theatre** within the Trade Fair ground for the children of ‘Children Homes’ in Delhi. **Shri Rahul Gandhi**, Hon’ble Member of Parliament accompanied by Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MOS(I/C) attended the show and interacted with the children after the film was over.

He also visited the Vatsalya pavilion and interacted with the women participants.

9.54 A demonstration stall on important schemes like Women Helpline, Child Helpline and Family Counselling Centre was also set up to provide information to the people visiting the pavilion. A counter displaying both magazines of Central Social Welfare Board namely ‘**Social Welfare**’ and ‘**Samaj Kalyan**’ was also put up so that people could easily subscribe to the same. Other dignitaries like **Shri Vyalar Ravi**, Minister for Overseas Affairs, **Shri Muzaffar Ali**, renowned film maker also paid a visit to pavilion and interacted with the women participants.

Release of Meghdoot Post Card of The Central Social Welfare Board on 14th Nov., 2007 At Pragati Maidan

9.55 The Central Social Welfare Board has decided to use the scheme of Meghdoot Post Cards of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs to generate

awareness on problems like Female Foeticide and other social issues. The Post and Telegraph Department has been requested to prepare 10 lakh cards as a pilot project with slogans and messages according to regional requirement. These cards will carry information about the schemes and activities of the Board. During the Valsalya Mela, a sample design of the card was released by the Hon’ble Minister for Women and Child Development, Smt. Renuka Chowdhury.

Series of Seminars on Female Foeticide Launched

9.56 To commemorate International Women’s Day, J & K State Social Welfare Board organized two programmes on 8th and 10th March, 2007 at Srinagar and Jammu respectively on the issue of female foeticide. The seminar organized at Srinagar was inaugurated by Shri Gulam Nabi Azad, Chief Minister, Jammu & Kashmir and Smt. Rajani Patil, Chairperson, Central Social Welfare Board was the Chief Guest at the function organised in Jammu University.



A Campaign Against Female Foeticide in Gujarat

9.57 **Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, Hon'ble Minister of Women and Child Development(Independent charge)** inaugurated the launch of State level campaign against Female Foeticide at Vadodara. While inaugurating the meet, she expressed deep concern over the present condition of female foeticide in the State of Gujarat. The minister hoisted the Women's Day Flag, which symbolizes the indomitable spirit of Indian womanhood. The Central Social Welfare Board organized this meeting of approximately 15000 women representing NGOs and Self-Help Groups from seven districts of Central Gujarat.

9.58 Smt. Rajani Patil, Chairperson, Central Social Welfare Board, Shri Narayan Rathawa, Union Minister of State for Railways, Shri Bharat Singh Solanki, President, Gujarat Congress and Shri Mukul Wasnik, General Secretary, All India Congress Committee participated in the Meet and also addressed the participants.

9.59 Smt. Rajani Patil, Chairperson, Central Social Welfare Board addressed State Level Conference on Prevention of Female Foeticide organized by the Tamilnadu Social Welfare Board in Chennai on 30th Sept., 2007. She also released a poster on the protection of the Female Foetus.

9.60 Puducherry State Social Welfare Board organized a mammoth rally to campaign against female foeticide at Gandhi Statue near Puducherry Beach. Smt. Rajani Patil, Chairperson, Central Social Welfare Board flagged off the rally comprising of around 1000 women representative from various VOs and Madhar Sangams of Puducherry and Karaikal Region. Shri M. Kandasamy, Hon'ble Minister for Welfare, Smt. Jean Pourany, Chairperson, Puducherry State Board and other dignitaries were also present.

One Day Meet on “Combating Women Trafficking”

Held At Guntur on 07-10-2007.

9.61 A One Day Meet on “Combating Women Trafficking” was organized by the Andhra Pradesh State Social Welfare Board, Hyderabad. **Smt. Renuka Chowdhary**, Minister for Women & Child Development(Independent Charge) was the Chief Guest. **Smt. Panabaka Laxmi**, Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare, **Smt. Rajani Patil**, Chairperson, Central Social Welfare Board and several local M.P's, M.L.A's and other dignitaries were also present.

International Day of Family

Minister For Women & Child Development Visits Old Age Homes.

9.62 **Smt. Renuka Chowdhury**, Hon'ble Minister of State for Women & Child Development (Independent Charge) visited the Old Age Homes in Kalkaji and Rajpur Road and distributed fruit, milk and tonics to the elderly inmates of these Homes on the occasion of International Day of Family on 15th May, 2007. The Hon'ble Minister made the visit to highlight the need to protect the family unit which is the very basis of a healthy and strong society. She said that our elders are full of generosity and have the ability to forgive all our mistakes.

9.63 The Hon'ble Minister was accompanied by Smt. Motia Garg, Chairperson, Delhi State Board, Smt. Loveleen Kacker, Joint Secretary, Smt. Manjula Krishnan, Economic Advisor, Smt. R. Savithri, Director from the Ministry of Women & Child Development and Smt. Sujata Saunik, Executive Director, Central Social Welfare Board and a team of officers of Central Social Welfare Board and Delhi State Social Welfare Board.



National Commission For Women

10

National Commission For Women

10.1 The National Commission for Women (NCW) was constituted on 31st January, 1992 as a statutory body at the national level, in pursuance of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 to safeguard the interests of women. It has a wide mandate covering almost all aspects of women's development, viz., to investigate and examine the legal safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws and recommend to Government measures for their effective implementation; review the existing provisions of the Constitution and other laws affecting women and recommend amendments to meet any lacunae, inadequacies or shortcomings in such laws; look into complaints and take suo moto notice of matters relating to deprivation of women's rights, etc. and take up the issues with appropriate authorities; take up studies/research on issues of relevance to women, participate and advise in the planning process for socio-economic development of women, evaluate the progress made thereof; inspect jails, remand homes, etc. where women are kept under custody and seek remedial action wherever necessary.

10.2 In keeping with its mandate, the Commission initiated various steps to improve the status of women and worked for their economic empowerment during the year under report. The Commission's Members and officers have visited various parts of the country to attend meetings/seminars/workshops, to investigate various cases of atrocities committed against women, visited short stay homes, orphanages, hospitals, legal awareness camps on legal rights of women,

jails, etc. to gain first hand knowledge about the problems faced by women there, suggest remedial measures and to take up the issues with the concerned authorities.

10.3 The NCW received a large number of complaints and acted suo-moto in several cases to provide speedy justice, took up the issue of child marriage, sponsored Legal Awareness Programmes, Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalats and organized workshops/consultations, constituted expert committees on economic empowerment of women, conducted gender awareness programmes and took up publicity campaign against female foeticide, violence against women, child marriages, etc. in order to generate awareness in the society against these social evils.

Composition

10.4 The present composition of the Commission is as follows:-

- i) Dr. Girija Vyas, Chairperson - 16.02.2005
- ii) Ms. Yasmeen Abrar, Member - 24.05.2005
- iii) Ms. Malini Bhattacharya, Member - 26.05.2005
- iv) Ms. Neeva Konwar, Member - 27.05.2005
- v) Ms. Nirmala Venkatesh, Member - 15.07.2005
- vi) Ms. Manju S. Hembrom, Member - 30.06.2006
- vii) Shri N.P. Gupta, Member Secretary - 17.02.2005 – (Retd. on 31.8.2007)

viii) Shri S. Chatterjee, Member Secretary
-10.09.2007

Complaints and Investigation Cell

10.5 The Complaints and Investigation Cell is the core unit of the Commission. It processes oral/written complaints/newspaper reports and take suo-moto notice of cases under Section 10 of the NCW Act, 1990. The complaints received relate to various categories of crimes against women such as domestic violence, harassment, dowry, torture, murder, kidnapping/abduction, complaints against NRIs/NRI marriages, desertion, bigamy, rape, police harassment/brutality, cruelty by husband, deprivation of rights, gender discrimination and sexual harassment at workplace, etc. During the year 2007, 12386 complaints were received during April to 31st December, 2007. The complaints are acted upon in the following manner:

- Specific cases of police apathy are sent to the police authorities for investigation and cases are monitored.
- Family disputes are resolved through counselling.
- For serious crimes, the Commission constitutes Inquiry Committee, which makes on the spot inquiries, examines various witnesses, collects evidence and submits reports with recommendations. Such investigations help in providing immediate relief and justice to the victims of violence and atrocities. The Commission monitors the implementation of the recommendations.
- The NCW has also placed advertisement in the leading newspapers of the States for constituting Internal Committees for enquiring into matters of sexual harassment at work place in Government and corporate sector.

10.6 Women can also access the Commission for speedy justice, as there is facility for online registration of complaints at www.new.nic.in

With this facility, the complainant can access the Commission from any part of the country, without having to visit the office. The registration is done on line and the complainant informed.

The Commission received a complaint from Jaswanti Devi w/o Col. Sushil Giri, r/o village Bhangela, P.O. Khatauli, District Muzaffarnagar, UP regarding falsification made by her husband in his service records so that the complainant would not get pension benefit etc. from her husband. Sushil Giri had removed the name of his wife from his service records and put the name of another woman in the records with whom he was staying illegally. The Commission took cognizance of the case and wrote to the Director, Discipline and Vigilance Directorate, Adjutant General's Branch, Army Headquarters, New Delhi. On NCW's intervention, a grant of maintenance allowance had been made to the complainant by deducting 22 percent per month from the pay and allowances of Sushil Giri. The deduction of maintenance allowance would continue till the marriage of the complainant with the husband subsists or till her death. Besides, arrears of maintenance allowance were also sanctioned to the complainant.

Visit of Foreign delegates to NCW

- A five member delegation from Tuscanny (Italy) called on Dr. Girija Vyas, Chairperson, NCW and the Members of the Commission. Ms. Susanne Cenni, leader of the delegation, Minister of Agriculture & Women Development, of the State of Tuscanny, deliberated on how biodiversity has turned to be an advantage rather than disadvantage. Dr. Girija Vyas said that the Commission had sent suggestions on the New Agriculture Policy. She further said that a percolating system of irrigation is practiced in Rajasthan, that is irrigation with small amount of water. She said that the main problems of women in agriculture are traditional form of farming, marketing and storage.

- Dr. Shrin Tahir Kheli, Ambassador and Senior Advisor (Women Empowerment) to U.S. Secretary of State, Ms. Condleezza Rice visited the Commission and interacted with the Chairperson, the members and the officers of the Commission and discussed the issue of empowerment of women and providing opportunities to them for their economic, social and political progress.
- A British delegation comprising Baroness Ashton, Under Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs, UK, Ms. Anne Marcs, Secretary BHC, visited the Commission and interacted with the Chairperson on issues common to both countries, such as forced marriages, NRI marriages, sexual harassment at workplace, domestic violence, etc.
- The UN Special Rapporteur on the 'Right of Everyone to Enjoyment of the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health' (Right to Health), Mr. Paul Hunt visited National Commission for Women on 30th November, 2007, which was chaired by Dr. Girija Vyas, Chairperson, National Commission for Women. The meeting was attended by the Members, Member Secretary and by all other officials of National Commission for Women. Various important issues on health sector were discussed like Maternal Mortality Rate, role of private sector in providing health services, health infrastructure in rural areas and the programmes being implemented by the Government, were discussed.

World Hindi Conference

10.7 The 8th World Hindi Conference was organized by the Government of India in collaboration with Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan and other organizations based in New York in US. The theme of the conference was 'Hindi on a World Stage'. The inaugural function was attended by very high dignitaries from all over the world, including the UN Secretary General. Dr. Girija

Vyas, Chairperson, NCW chaired the session 'Hindi in the United Nations Organization'. She said that India was continuing its efforts to get Hindi recognized as one of the official languages of the UN. Hindi is spoken by millions of people around the world and has the standing of an international language. Hindi Chairs have been established in foreign universities also.

Important Meetings/Workshops/Seminars organized by the Commission

- A two-day workshop was organized by the NCW and the Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women on '**Powers of the Civil Court vested with the Commissions**' in Chennai. The Chairperson, NCW observed that though the powers of the civil court were vested with the Commissions, there were variances with regard to issuing of summons, examining witnesses or procedures to be adopted when witnesses have to be summoned from other States. Despite numerous laws for the protection of women, crimes against them had been increasing. Chairpersons of Southern State Commissions and NGOs participated in the Consultation. Later, the Chairperson, NCW and other Members held a meeting with the Chief Secretary, Tamil Nadu to discuss issues relating to crime against women in Tamil Nadu, implementation of Domestic Violence Act, 2005, implementation of PC&PNDT Act, compulsory registration of marriages, implementation of the Supreme Court guidelines on Sexual Harassment at Workplace, gender budgeting and rehabilitation of Tsunami victims.
- Realizing the plight of women declared as witch and to facilitate capacity building and creating awareness, the National Commission for Women organized a **Conference on Dayan Pratha at Udaipur, Rajasthan**. The Conference was attended by academicians, activists, NGOs, leaders

of SHGs and the officers of Central/State Governments. Some of the women branded as witches spoke about their miserable condition and the ill-treatment meted out to them by the villagers and the society.

- The NCW organized an **Interactive Meeting of Chairpersons of the State Commission for Women along with a meeting of the Expert Committee on North Eastern States in New Delhi.** Chairpersons of 23 State Commissions and some of their members participated in the meeting. The Chairperson, NCW said that 70 % of the problems were common to all States, so a common agenda should be evolved to address them. The meeting discussed the declining sex ratio in the States and UTs and effective implementation of the Pre-Conception Pre – Natal Diagnostic Technique Act. The Chairpersons pointed out that there was no uniformity of infrastructure, salary and perks given to the Chairpersons and the

Members. Some Commissions did not have adequate staff, accommodation or funds. They suggested that there should be parity among the State Commissions and same facilities should be given to all. Most of the Chairpersons said that more powers should be vested in the Commission to make them really effective. The participants agreed to the proposal of sharing resources for better handling of complaints, initiating gender budgeting and implementing the guidelines on sexual harassment at workplace. Later, the Chairperson, NCW chaired the meeting of the Expert Committee on North Eastern States. Participants deliberated on various issues such as customary laws, role of women in decision making, impact of ethnic violence and armed conflict, alcoholism, trafficking and HIV/AIDS.

- The women folk in some of the areas of the country face formidable socio-economic problems due to the practice of witchcraft



A Conference on 'Dayan Pratha' at Udaipur, Rajasthan on 25-26th April, 2007

i.e. Dayan Pratha which is an ancient practice not only in India but in other parts of the world also. Witchcraft is a cult, deeply rooted in the psyche of common people and is more of a socio-cultural belief, which can wreak havoc on the victim. Realizing the plight of the women declared as witch i.e. Dayan and to facilitate the creation of awareness, the National Commission for Women organized a **Conference on 'Dayan Pratha' at Ranchi in the Conference Hall of Bagaicha, C/o of Agricultural Training Centre, Namkum, Ranchi, Jharkhand on 5th and 6th December, 2007**. The Conference was attended by the officers of the Central/ State Government, academicians, social activists, NGOs, leaders of Self Help Groups, etc. Factors responsible for witchcraft were discussed alongwith the strategies to reduce the threat to women like:

- i) Actions by agencies – development agencies.
- ii) Forming a support group for women.

- iii) Making easy access to education and health.
- iv) Brining about gender sensitive administration.
- v) Combating religious fanatics leading to superstition.
- vi) Realizing the gravity of the problem at the State and Central level, incorporating it in course curriculum.
- vii) Anti campaigns to deal with the issue and preferably in affected areas.

10.8 India is a vibrant democracy. However, even after 57 years of parliamentary democracy, women are grossly underrepresented in the Parliament and State Assemblies. To enhance women's representation in Parliament, various parties have been speaking about their commitment to reserve 33% seats for women in both the houses of Parliament. But till date, they have not arrived at a consensus. In an attempt to bring together the Parliamentarians and those who believe in the cause, an **interactive meeting was organized by**



Interactive Meeting in Parliament House Annexe on Reservation for Women in the Parliament and State Assemblies, 19th March, 2007

the NCW in Parliament House Annexe, on 19th December, 2007.

Review of Laws

Integrated Plan of Action to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking with special focus on children and women

10.9 The Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Home Affairs, National Human Rights Commission and National Commission for Women decided to work in unison and draw up an **Integrated Plan of Action to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking with Special Focus on Children and Women**. It was felt that such a Plan of Action would guide and facilitate uniform action on the part of all concerned so that trafficking is prevented and trafficked victims are rescued, rehabilitated and reintegrated with their families and communities. The regional workshops at Guwahati, Hyderabad and Goa was followed up by National Consultation at New Delhi on the 3rd and 4th August 2007.

The Integrated Plan of Action consists of action points grouped under:

- Ensuring Human Rights Perspective of the Victims of Trafficking
- Identification of Traffickers and Trafficked Victims
- Preventing Trafficking
- Emerging Areas of Concern in Trafficking – Their Patterns and Trends
- Special Measures for Identification and Protection of Trafficked Child Victims
- Rescue of Trafficked Victims Especially in Brothel-Based and Street-Based Prostitution with Special Focus on Child Victims
- Rehabilitation, Reintegration and Repatriation of Trafficked Victims with Special Focus on Child Victims
- Cross-Border Trafficking: National and Regional Cooperation and Coordination



'Is destitution the only answer?' -National Seminar on 'Mentally Ill Women' held on 8th March, 2007

- Legal Framework and Law Enforcement
- Witness Protection and Support to Victims
- Training, Sensitization, Education and Awareness
- Methodology for Translating the Action Points into Action

10.10 The ultimate objective of the Integrated Plan of Action is to mainstream and reintegrate all victims of trafficking in society.

Implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005

10.11 During the year the National Commission for Women along with the Lawyers Collective, organized regional workshops at Mumbai, Bangalore, Chandigarh and Jaipur with respect to stocktaking of the State Governments' action regarding the Implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act. Workshops at Kolkata and North East were also held in February, 2008. The gist of the recommendations are enumerated as under:

- A separate support system consisting of exclusive Protection Officers (POs) should be set up for the implementation of the PWDV Act, so as to be able to achieve the ends of justice expeditiously. Alongwith the DV Act, the set up could also help to implement other acts such as the Dowry Prohibition Act, as cases filed generally involve more than one legislation. The police Crimes Against Women(CAW) cells could be activated for the purpose and the **Andhra Model** could be followed.
- NGOs could be considered as Protection Officers and paid honorarium for the task being performed by them subject to basic minimum facilities such as office, transport, staff, etc.

- There should be one PO for each taluka equipped with adequate office space, machinery and staff and the feasibility of every panchayat having a women justice committee could be considered.
- Accessibility of PO - The office of PO should be in a centrally located place which is easily accessible. The address, phone no of the PO should be widely publicized and put up in public places.
- The services have to be accessible to women in remote areas.
- A directory of facilities of Government and Government aided services across different geographical regions should be prepared.
- Criteria for selection of Service Providers (SPs) must include NGOs who have adequate infrastructure such as shelter homes, medical care facilities, etc.
- The forms under the act have not been provided to the SPs; translation of forms must also be undertaken.
- Provision for honorarium to counselors.
- Alternate Dispute Resolution could play an important role in the implementation of the PWDV Act.
- The law is also silent as to evidentiary value, which is to be attached to the reports given by PO or their mode of proof. Laws such as land acquisition Act, the sale deed is read as evidence. The report of PO should have evidentiary value.

Provisions to Regulate Domestic Workers

- Millions of women and girls around the world revert to domestic work as one of the few options available to them in order to provide for themselves and their families.

Instead of guaranteeing their ability to work with dignity and free of violence, government has systematically denied them key labor protection extended to workers in other sectors. Domestic workers, often make extraordinary sacrifice to support their families and are among the most exploited and abused workers in the world.

- It is well known that many persons, who are employed in domestic work, are people who have migrated to the urban areas in search of employment. Mainly the extremely poor, illiterate come from rural areas and have no acquaintance with the ways of the town and have to eke out their existence and therefore, often agree to work at nominal wages, taking the risks of uncertainty and uncivil or inhuman conditions of work and treatment. They are excluded from the very scope of legislations of various countries including India. The specificity of their employment relationship is not addressed by any legislative enactment. There is no written contract for the work, they are hired and fired at the will of the employer. In the absence of any formal contract, their working conditions are often oppressive. To justify their status as real workers they should be entitled to the legislative protection. Their working condition in essence remains unregulated. It is well known that there is no system of social security on which they can fall back.
- Thus, they do not receive any benefits under The Workmen Compensation Act, 1923, The Payment of Wages Act, 1942, The Weekly Holidays Act, 1942, The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, etc.
- The Commission has conducted a series of meetings during the year and it has been

decided that a comprehensive legislation be prepared to regulate the conditions of service, registration of domestic maids and also regulate the placement agencies.

Constitution of a Committee to examine the issues relating to Domestic Workers.

10.12 In accordance with section 8 of National Commission for Women Act read with section 10(1)(a) of the Act, a Sub-Committee has been constituted consisting of the following :-

- a) Smt. Malini Bhattacharya, Member, NCW
- b) Dr. Bharti Sharma, CWC
- c) Mr. Subhash Bhatnagar, Nirmala Niketan
- d) Sr. Leone, Domestic Workers Forum
- e) Mr. Ramendra Kumar, Delhi Domestic Workers Forum
- f) One representative from Guild of Services
- g) Ms. Kusum Mishra, Deputy Secretary, NCW
- g) Mr. Yogesh Mehta, Law Officer, NCW

The Committee has prepared the draft Bill on the issue which is likely to be finalized shortly.

Offences by Acids (Prevention and Regulation) Act, 2007

10.13 Acid attacks permanently disfigure, debilitate and, eventually, destroy the victim, both physically and psychologically. While many attacks have resulted in slow and painful deaths, cases like that of Haseena (in April 1999) and in other cases have resulted in young women getting disfigured, maimed and confined to homes for life. They continue to battle medical complications as acid seeps into the body and harms internal organs over an extended period of time. The victim needs both short term and long term medical facilities in the form of specialized plastic surgery. But it is almost impossible for the victim's family to pay

for the extensive surgeries needed to reconstruct the damaged face of the victim and thus many of the victims remain like a living corpse. As these surgeries are performed at different stages to give a person a close resemblance to their earlier looks, these operations cost the victim from minimum two lacs to several lacs of rupees.

10.14 It has also been observed that there is no scope of rehabilitation for acid survivors and there is no one to provide support. Despite the fact that in most cases the victim knows the violator, the perpetrators often escape the law and are rarely brought to justice under the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Penal Code.

10.15 Acid attacks can be termed as an act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life.

The proposed law seeks to focus on achieving the following major objectives:-

- Classification of acid attack as a separate and most heinous form of offence
- To assist the victim of acid attack by way of providing for her medical treatment services and also provide social and psychological support.
- To provide legal support to the survivors.
- To arrange rehabilitation mechanisms/schemes taking into account the specific needs of the victim.
- Regulation and control of acid and other corrosive substances.

The proposed law has been placed on NCW website and comments from general public have been invited. Recently, on 23rd February 2008,

NCW also held consultations on the draft Act at Bangalore.

Report of The Inquiry Committee Into The Incident At Rajkot, Gujarat

10.16 Pooja Chauhan has been in news more for her form of protest adopted due to alleged police inaction and harassment by her husband and in-laws. On the 3rd of July 2007, a semi nude parade was made by Pooja in Rajkot, as a form of protest, to seek justice against the ill treatment allegedly meted out to her. Considering the gravity of the case, a Committee was constituted, in accordance with the National Commission for Women Act 1990, consisting of the following:-

- i) Ms. Malini Bhattacharya,
Member, NCW - Chairperson
- ii) Ms Alka Lamba, Vice
Chairperson NIPCCD - Member
- iii) Shri Yogesh Mehta, Law Officer, NCW
- iv) Shri Nandan Singh, Under Secretary

Recommendations made by the Committee

- Immediate provision of safe shelter for Pooja and her minor daughter.
- Counseling services, if necessary psychiatric, to be provided immediately.
- Protection from further harassment by her husband and mother-in-law.
- Action to be taken on her complaints made in the police station.
- Protection from the media from further questions and information.
- Vocational training followed by rehabilitation which would enable her to maintain herself and her daughter.

10.17 Quite a few people from Rajkot and around met the Committee with complaints on other cases that at the *Thana* level police often refuse to take FIR. Police authorities must take stern measures in such cases.

10.18 That due recognition in form of financial assistance and recognition in form of shelter and short stay homes to institutions such as Kanti Vikas Gruha at Rajkot need to be addressed to.

10.19 The police should be proactive in cases of domestic violence and should be sensitized to the provisions of the PWDV Act 2005 and should inform the aggrieved woman of her

right to stay free of violence under the newly enacted PWDV Act 2005, to assist her in any manner in accessing the Protection officer and filing applications in court.

10.20 A CD has been circulating on the parade of Pooja which has so far not been investigated by the police which should be done so at the earliest.

Important Seminars, public hearings/ workshops sponsored by NCW

10.21 During the year, Seminars/research studies sponsored by the National Commission for Women are given in **Annexure XXXVI**.



Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

11

Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

11.1 The National Credit Fund for Women known as Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) was set up in 1993, as a national-level organisation under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India to meet the credit needs of poor and asset less women in the informal sector. RMK was started with an initial corpus of Rs.31.00 crore bolstered up to Rs.41.00 crore with an additional allocation of Rs.10.00 crore in 2006-07 which has grown over to Rs.88.00 crore due to prudent investment, credit and recovery management.

Administrative Set Up

11.2 RMK is administered by a Governing Board consisting of 16 members representing various Central Ministries / Departments, State Governments, Specialists and Representatives of Organizations active in the field of micro credit. The Minister of State for Women and Child Development (Independent Charge), Govt. of India

is the Chairperson of the Governing Board and the Executive Director of RMK acts as Member Secretary. RMK meets all its administrative and establishment expenditure from internal resources without depending on budgetary support.

Objectives

11.3 RMK extends micro-finance services through a client friendly and hassle-free loaning mechanism for livelihood activities, housing, micro-enterprises, family needs, etc to bring about the socio-economic upliftment of poor women. RMK has also taken a number of promotional measures to popularise the concept of women empowerment through micro financing, thrift and credit, formation and stabilization of SHGs and also enterprise development for poor women.

Credit is disbursed to the women SHGs both rural and urban through intermediate organizations like NGOs, Co-operative societies, Government



Cutting and Tailoring Unit- Self-Help Group venture supported by Rashtriya Mahila Kosh



RMK supported Plant Nursery



Weaving Unit Financed by Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

autonomous organizations, not-for-profit Section 25 Companies, State Women Development Corporations, registered bodies and federations of women etc. There is no collateral.

Loan Schemes of RMK

Loan Promotion Scheme

11.4 RMK provides smaller loan upto a maximum of Rs. 5.00 lakh to promote the activity of thrift and credit among newer and smaller but potentially capable organisations having at-least six months experience in formation of Self-Help-Groups, thrift, credit and recovery management.

Main Loan Scheme

11.5 Organisations having minimum 3 years experience in thrift and credit activities are being considered under the scheme. Loan upto A maximum of Rs. 300 Lakhs can be granted at a time under this scheme.

Revolving Fund Scheme

11.6 Organisations having 5 years experience in the field of micro-credit with satisfactory track record are being considered under this scheme. The organisations can revolve principal amount sanctioned by RMK for income generation activities among the SHGs. Maximum Loan of Rs. 300 lakhs can be given under this scheme.

Refinance Scheme

11.7 RMK provides 100% refinance assistance to Mahila Urban Co-operative Banks on finances provided by them to poor women either directly or through SHGs within the norms of the RMK Main Loan Scheme.

Repeat Loan:

11.8 Repeat Loan is also available to the organisations on successful utilization of first loan. The borrowing organisation has to repay 25% of its existing loan to be eligible for a repeat loan.

Franchisee Scheme

11.9 Smaller NGOs of the State can avail loan directly from franchisee appointed by RMK for that particular State without sending their proposal to RMK office at New Delhi. The Credit Limit under the scheme is Rs. 500 lakh.

Gold Credit Pass Book Scheme

11.10 This Scheme of providing hassle free finance has been designed for medium and large NGOs to revolve the fund sanctioned by RMK for 3 years. Maximum credit limit under this scheme is Rs. 500.00 lakhs.

Housing Loan Scheme:

11.11 To provide shelter / repair of houses to SHG members through partner organisations of RMK, the maximum limit is Rs. 50,000/- per beneficiary for construction of low cost house / repairs.

Family Loan Scheme:

11.12 For Medical needs / Marriage / Education / Funeral / Birth / Festivals / Religious occasions / purchase of good foodgrain & food stuff / Ration /Clothing. Aggregate amount of loan for all purposes put together not to exceed seven times of savings of the beneficiary or Rs. 10,000/- per year whichever is less. Application to be submitted as a part of the Main Loan Scheme.

Working Capital Term loans:

11.13 RMK provides hassle-free Working Capital Term Loan to the organisations for backward and forward marketing linkages of products of women SHGs/ Individuals and group entrepreneurs including technology transfer, education, skill upgradation and infrastructure development. The borrowing organisation should have availed of a minimum loan of Rs 25 lakhs or above under



Saree Sale Outlet managed by Self-Help Group Members supported by Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

micro-credit schemes of RMK/ SIDBI / NABARD / Commercial Banks / Other Financial Institutions. (The condition is not applicable for Govt. Organisations). The maximum amount of loan is Rs. 3.00 crores, but not more than Rs. 1.00 crore in one State.

11.14 Eligibility Norms

- The organization applying for loan should have broad based objectives, serving the social and economic needs of the poor women. It must not work for profit.
- The organization should have necessary professional competence, basic financial management capability and organizational skills to implement the lending programme.
- The office bearers of the organization should not be elected representatives of any political party.
- The organization should have proper system of maintaining accounts, which should have been audited and published every year and there should not have been any serious irregularities.
- The organization should be registered for more than 3 years on the date of application to RMK.
- The organization should have experience in thrift and credit management for 3 years or more. (Six months for applying under the Loan Promotion Scheme).
- The application should clearly reflect the source of funds utilized earlier for credit.
- Recoveries for the loans given to its members earlier should be at least 90%.
- There should be proper and specific clause / provision in the Bye-laws / Memorandum

of Association of the organization having power to borrow or raise loans from any outside agency.

- There should be appropriate reflection in the organization's audited accounts and balance sheet in respect of its experience in providing credit and recoveries etc. Audited accounts should reflect sound financial management / health.

Activities

Partnership

11.15 RMK has a large NGO network in the country, which helps in creating awareness among the NGOs to integrate micro finance activities into their social sector interventions. RMK organized a number of Awareness cum Capacity Building Programmes to nurture the supporting intermediary organizations and initiated a number of innovative programmes during the current year. No. of training programme including exposure visits during the year were 21. **Supporting Intermediary Organizations**

11.16 The micro finance programme of the RMK for the socio-economic upliftment of poor women through the SHGs is most successful one in the country where the recovery rate at the apex level is over 91 %. Therefore, a large number of Voluntary Organizations, Government autonomous bodies, Cooperative Societies etc. are coming forward for financial intermediation. As a part of the developmental initiatives for the future growth of micro finance, RMK has launched a Nodal Agency Scheme. Till date RMK has appointed 31 Nodal Agencies in the entire country for credit linkages with new and potential NGOs with a view to expand its outreach in a most cost-effective manner in the marginally and uncovered areas of the country.

The performance of these Nodal Agencies is reviewed from time to time. Apart from Nodal Agency Scheme, RMK has another scheme called 'Franchisee'. Under its Franchisee Scheme, it has appointed 5 Franchisees. RMK extends bulk finance to Franchisees who, in turn, on-lend it to smaller and potential NGOs of the State/ District with similar terms and conditions as prescribed by RMK. RMK has appointed 31 Nodal Agencies in several states. The details of Nodal Agencies are at **Annexure-XXXVII**.

11.17 Innovative Handholding, Financing and Capacity Building

- **Mandal Samakhyas, Khammam, Andhra Pradesh** – For the first time RMK targeted for innovative financing on pilot project basis to the members of the women federations in Khammam District, a most tribal dominated area of Andhra Pradesh. The federations have been formed under Andhra Pradesh State Rural Poverty Reduction Programme. RMK selected some of the good federations and sanctioned loans to the tune of Rs.7 crore.
- **Sakshar Mahila Samooths, Haryana** - In an effort to nurture grass root women - NGOs in the northern states having adverse sex ratio to avail micro-credit facilities and set up micro-enterprises, Haryana was chosen on an experimental basis.

Sakshar Mahila Samooths,(SMSs) groups of educated women of the village, designed to function as the focal point of all developmental agenda, like Health, Hygiene, Literacy, environment and economic empowerment of women at the village level in Haryana were planned to train to function as Self Help Groups (SGHs) promoting NGOs. Towards this end,

following capacity building three tier actions were taken during the year:

- i) RMK organized 9 awareness workshops to mobilize 360 members of 72 SMSs in districts of Gurgaon, Rohtak, Karnal, Ambala, Sonapat, Panipat, Kurukshetra, Sirsaud and Mewat.
- ii) Three field training cum exposure visits of the SMSs /NGOs mobilized were conducted at Rohtak District of Haryana and Solan & Sirmour Districts of Himachal Pradesh.
- iii) A skill training programme on dairy management and production of products for members of SMSs covering 30 participants from 6 districts of Haryana was organized at National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Resource center of the RMK to enhance their skills in production of value added products and to improve their economic status. Details of these programmes may be seen in **Annexure -XXXVIII**

11.18 Recent Initiatives

i) Resource Centres

RMK identifies reputed Government Organizations / Government Undertakings / NGOs / Research Institutions / Universities / Academic Institutions having adequate infrastructure to extend their services for capacity building, vocational and skill development, modern practices, technology transfer, micro-enterprise development, etc. to the SHG members / group leaders and implementing agencies for qualitative expansion of RMK's programme all over the country. During the year, RMK has approved the following institutions as Resource Centres:

No	Name of the Resource Centre	Training Areas
1.	Indian Agricultural Research Centre , Pusa, New Delhi-	Vocational trainings relating to farm sector.
2.	Central Avian Research Institute , Izatnagar, UP .	Poultry
3.	Central Institute for Goats, Makhdoom , Mathura, UP	Skill development / upgrading, technology transfer, micro enterprise development training for goat rearing..
4.	Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering , Nabi Bagh, Berasia Road, Bhopal , MP	Vocational training on i) Improved tools and equipment suitable for farm - women, ii) Soya-products preparations iii) Agro – processing activities iv) Improved energy gadgets for rural domestic use, v) Modern farming practices and vi) Composite training
5.	Central Institute for Fisheries Research Technology , Willingdon Island, Cochin, Kerala	Vocational training in Fisheries
6.	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute , Kasaragod, Kerala	Training in preparation of coconut chips, snowball tender nuts, Vermi composting, production of mushroom using coconut wastes etc.
7.	Indian Institute for Pulses Research , Kanpur, UP	On-hand training to women SHGs on processing of pulses and seed production.
8.	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research , Bangalore	Training on i) Mushroom cultivation, ii) Entrepreneur-ship development through processing of horticultural products, iii) Raising quality seedlings of horticultural crops and iv) Production of bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides.
9.	Indian Institute of Spices Research , Marikunnu, Calicut, Kerala	Training on a) Goat production & management, b) Broiler Calf management, c) Dairy management, d) Backyard poultry rearing, e) Rabbitary, f) Mushroom production, g) Agricultural nursery management, h) Vermicompost production, i) Plant propagation techniques, j) Azolla cultivation, k) Apiculture, l) Medicinal Plant cultivation and m) Fabric painting and card making.

10	Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi, UP	Advanced technology training in vegetable crops and post harvest management and value addition in vegetable.
11.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra & Dairy Training Research Institute, National Dairy Research Institute, ICAR, Karnal, Haryana	Training on Dairy production and processing.

11.19 Package for North-Eastern Region

In order to remove the uneven presence of micro-credit in the country which is witnessed mostly in North-Eastern region due to poor presence of banking net-work, lack of infrastructure and awareness, RMK has formulated a concessional package for the voluntary organisations of the

North-Eastern region for easy access of credit from RMK to meet the credit needs of the poor women of the region. The relaxations are:

- The organization having completed one year of its registration (presently 3 years) can apply for the loan.
- Margin on loan reduces from 10% to 5%.



Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MOS (I/C), MWCD addressing the conference on 'Micro-Finance and Women Economic Empowerment in SAARC Region' in Delhi

- The grace period on repayment of loan enhanced from 6 months to 12 months.
- The repayment period of loan enhanced to five years invariably for all schemes.
- The NGOs to be supported with 10% of the loan sanctioned as capacity building assistance.
- To provide second class sleeper rail fare and where there is no rail link, cheaper class to and fro Air fare to the members of NGOs (up to 2 numbers) for coming to Delhi for execution of documents.

11.20 Some Major Activities during the Year.

- Conference on 'Micro-Finance and Women Economic Empowerment in SAARC Region' held on 27th July 2007 at New Delhi.**

On behalf of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Rashtriya Mahila Kosh organized a Conference on 'Micro-Finance and Women Economic Empowerment in SAARC Region' in collaboration with the SAARC Division of the Ministry of External Affairs on 27th July, 2007. Apart from India, delegates from Afganistan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Srilanka attended the conference.

The SAARC Conference has paved the way for future road mapping of the economic, social and political empowerment of women especially the marginalized and the poorest of the poor ones, in the SAARC region.

- Holding of Vatsalya Mela at India International Trade Fair, Pragati Maidan**

The Ministry of Women and Child Development organized 'Vatsalya' in the India International



Participants in Micro-Finance and Women Economic Empowerment in SAARC Region Conference in Delhi

Trade Fair from 14.11.2007 to 27.11.2007 at Pragati Maidan New Delhi. The entire administrative management of the pavilion was entrusted to **Rashtriya Mahila Kosh**. The objective of the Mela was to provide the poor women a platform to display their products and avail an opportunity to be appreciated by the visitors at the India International Trade Fair where a large scale business opportunities are available and which is visited by lakhs of people daily. The maiden attempt of the Ministry of Women and Child Development to have its pavilion in the India International Trade Fair 2007 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi was a grand success.

(iii) The East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting held on 6 – 7th December, 20 07.

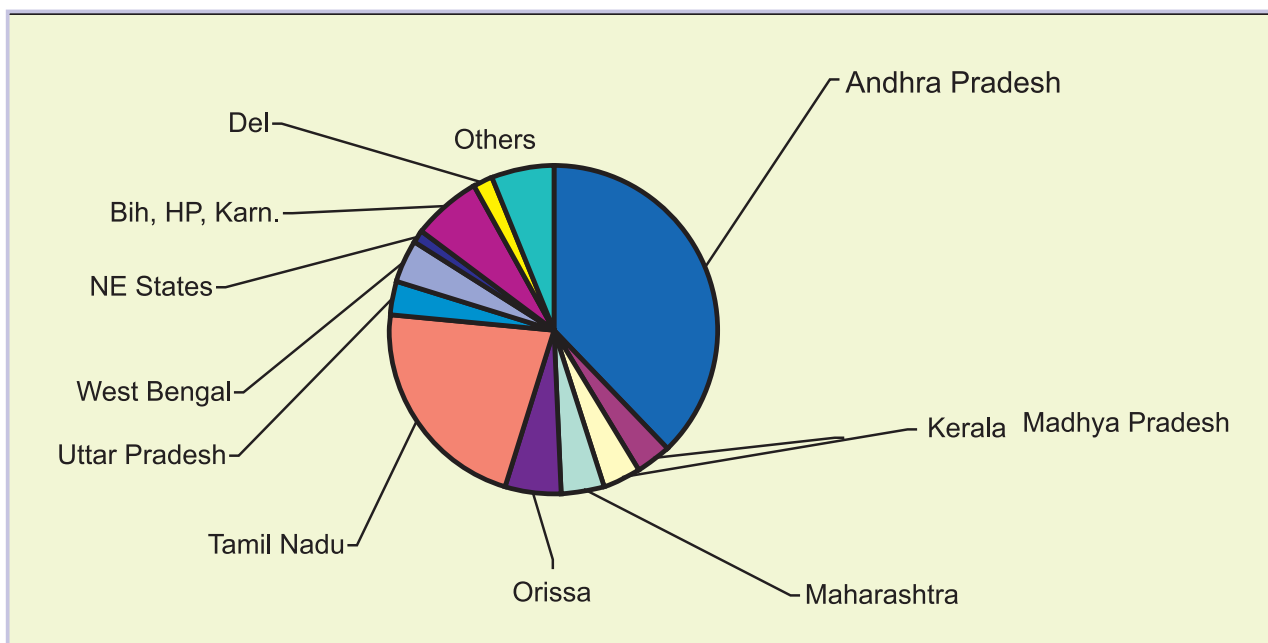
The Ministry of Women and Child Development organized the Second East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting, which was held in New Delhi in the month of December 2007. The themes of the second meeting were – i) Women's participation in decision-making, ii) Violence against women and iii) Home based workers.

Executive Director, RMK participated in the above meeting as Moderator for the Theme – 'Home based workers'.

(iv) Cumulative Performance of RMK since inception to 31.12.2007 .

The RMK has extended its network across the country. As on 31.12.2007, RMK had sanctioned loans of Rs. 229.40 crore benefiting 5,95,937 women. Out of this a sum of Rs.184.26 crore was disbursed. Details of loans sanctioned, released and number of beneficiaries covered is given in the annexed statement as **Annexure XXXIX**.

11.21. During the year from January 2007 to December 2007 RMK sanctioned loans amounting to Rs.19.96 crore and disbursed loan of Rs. 25.71 crore benefiting 28,440 women. Details of the loans sanctioned, disbursed and number of beneficiaries are given in the statement attached as **Annexure-XL**. List of Organisations who have been sanctioned and disbursed loans during 1.4.2006 to 31.3.2007 and 1.1.2007 to 31.12.2007 may be seen at **Annexure-XLI** and **XLII**, respectively.



Some success stories:

Andhra Pradesh

Smt Padmavati Devi of Garla Mandal in Khammam District of Andhra Pradesh belongs to a very poor family. With a meager income, it was very difficult for her husband to meet the expenditure of family. Smt Padmavati was, however, playing the multiple roles in the family like wife, daughter and provider. She thought of doing some work as a provider. The first problem before her was how to do a business without money. Through one of her friends she came to know that in her village there was a Self Help Group called Gram Samakhya that provides loans to the members of SHGs.. She thought of going for grinding mill in the village. Therefore, she became a member of the Gram Samakhya and approached her Group leader for a loan. The group leader placed her application before the Mahila Mandal Samakhya. She could convince the Mahila Mandal Samakhya. She got a loan of Rs.25,000/- from Rashtriya Mahila Kosh through this Mandal Samakhya. She decided to go for two grinding mills – viz Chillies and Rice. The total cost for these mills was Rs.30,000/-. To meet the full cost of the mills she took Rs.5000/- from one of the members of SHG. With this, she started 2 grinding mills in the village. She is now earning Rs.2000/- per month. Out of this Rs.1500/- is being used for repayment of loan and the remaining amount of Rs.500/- is being used for supplementing her monthly expenditure. She says that her family and other group members of Gram Samakhya are happy to have easy micro-credit assistance from RMK. The micro-finance assistance has made possible for her to go for these grinding mills.

Tamil Nadu

Smt. Jothi and her husband were daily wage labourers and earned together Rs.100/- per day. Jothi became a member of Vekkaiamman Women SHG supported by RMK in S. Kannaur Village of Manachanalur Panchayat of Trichirapalli District. She got a loan of Rs.8000/- from the SHG and utilized the amount in purchasing silk yarns to take up weaving on her own. She not only started earning to meet both the ends but also started saving. After meeting all the expenditure she saves Rs. 60/- per day and her husband earns Rs. 130/- per day. In a short period she became an entrepreneur making investment, *weaving silk sarees and marketing these on her own*. Thus the family which was nothing but daily wage earners are earning Rs.6000/- per month now with the micro-finance assistance provided by RMK.

Orissa

Smt. Sureswari Bhue of Block Dhankauda, District, Sambalpur, Orissa, a widow since 17 years ago has one son and one daughter to look after. She has a small agricultural land. Since the rate of interest in the area was too high she could not borrow money for purchase of seed and fertilizer. This made her life vulnerable. As a result of this her children worked as child labourers making Bidi at home. However, Sureshary Bhue came to know about the SHG in Sambalpur. She became the member of one of the SHGs promoted by Bharat Integrated Social Welfare Agency (BISWA), NGO. The NGO was financially supported by RMK under its loan programme. She got loan from BISWA at cheaper rate. She utilized the loan not only for repaying of her outstanding loan taken from other sources but also for the purchase of goats, seeds and fertilizers. Now she is living happily and encouraging other women in the village to become members of SHGs.