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Other Programmes and activities



Towards a New Dawn

Chapter 6

Other Programmes and Activities

6.1 Apart from the schemes and programme that have a direct bearing on the welfare and well-being of the women and children, the Ministry implements a few schemes that indirectly helps in the successful operation of these schemes and therefore are considered as schemes for the benefit of the women and children.

Grant-in-aid for Research, Publication and Monitoring

6.2 The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the scheme of grant-in-aid for research, publication and monitoring since 1986-87. 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 2009-10, the scheme has a budget allocation of Rs.2.00 crores (RE Rs. 1.00 crores) and expenditure of Rs.0.58 crores has been approved as on 20.1.2010. Funds released during 2009-10 to different

organisations for new / old projects are at **Annexure -XXVII.**

Innovative Work on Women and Children

6.3 This Ministry has instituted General Grant in Aid Scheme for Innovative Work on Women and Children. Under this scheme, project proposals of the following nature, related to women and children, are approved for execution by voluntary organizations /institutions, universities and research institutes, including those set up and funded by Central Government / State Government / Public Sector Undertakings / Local Authority /Corporations/Institutions:

- (i) Projects to tackle problem areas which are relatively un-serviced but where need is urgent;
- (ii) Projects which fill in essential gaps in existing services and complement them so as to maximize the impact;
- (iii) Projects, which provide integrated services, where all the components need not be financially supported by one source;

Box No. 1

Objective of the GIA for Research, Publication and Monitoring

- (i) Research studies 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.

- (iv) Projects which build capacity of the individual to be self-reliant rather than dependent;
- (v) Projects located in backward, rural and tribal areas and urban areas which are poorly serviced by existing services;
- (vi) Projects which are community based and render non-institutional services in certain cases where the nature of the problem so demands; Institutional programmes will also be supported;
- (vii) Projects to mobilize public opinion and support to tackle the pressing social problems;
- (viii) Projects to tackle problems which require coverage of more than one State;
- (ix) Projects not covered by any of the existing schemes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development including the Central Social Welfare Board.

6.4 During the year 2009-10, against the budget allocation of Rs.3.00 crores, the expenditure under this scheme is Rs.22.40 lakhs as on 31.12.2009. Details of the funds released under General Grant in Aid for innovative work on women and children are at **Annexure-XXVIII**.

Information Mass Education

6.5 The activities of Media Unit of the Ministry aims to generate awareness in the country about issues concerning the development of women and children by giving wide publicity to the policies, programmes and development activities formulated and implemented by the Ministry. During the current financial Year: 2009-10, a budget of Rs. 50 crores (including Rs. 5 crores for NER) was allocated for media activities of the Ministry.

6.6 In order to inform, educate and motivate people for bringing about attitudinal changes to achieve social development goals the Ministry carried out campaigns in news papers, magazines, television channels, radio and through outdoor hoardings on the issues of nutrition, female foeticide and equal rights of the girl child as well as schemes and

programmes of the Ministry.

Print Media

6.7 Advertisements were issued in prominent newspapers in Hindi, English and regional languages across the country. The details of advertisements may be seen at **Annexure-XXIX**.

Television / All India Radio

6.8 Scroll Messages (Period: May July, 2009) on DD News Channel and Spots on Nutrition & Female Foeticide (Period: 7 days) on DD National, DD News and DD Regional Channels through DAVP were telecast. However, telecast period of spots on 'Nutrition' was for 90 days' on North-East TV Channels through Directorate of Advertisement & Visual Publicity. Ministry's spots were also broadcast on Air Regional News and National News through DAVP for 7 days in May, 2009. The Ministry held a two week nationwide campaign on the theme of 'Girl Child' on the occasion of the National Girl Child Day. During this period, a radio campaign was also run on AIR and private FM radio channels.

Outdoor Publicity

6.9 Awareness campaign on various programmes of the Ministry, through Hoardings in public places of Delhi NCR, as a medium of Outdoor Publicity was also carried out.

Function on Non-Violence Day

6.10 An event was organized at India Gate with the participation of large numbers of women including Anganwadi Workers to commemorate International Day for Non-Violence on 02-10-2009. On this occasion, the MOS(I/C), MWCD administered a pledge to more than 5000 Ahimsa Messengers to spread the message of non-violence.

Information Technology

6.11 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 and a Local Area Network with facilities like information sharing, electronic mail and graphical user interface (GUI) based INTERNET surfing.

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6.12 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 2009-10 by the Ministry with the help of NIC is as follows:

Box No. 2

Programmes of NIC

File Status Information System
 NGO Grant Monitoring System
 Central Adoption Resource Authority Portal
 Budget Monitoring System
 Intranet Based Integrated office Automation

File Status Information System in Ministry

6.13 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.

NGO Grant Monitoring System

6.14 **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.

Reports

Cover Scheme-wise/State-wise Projects, Pending/Rejected Cases, Outstanding Utilization Certificates, Geographical Coverage, Cash flows etc.

NGO-PS System - Details of all NGO Schemes have been uploaded on NGO Portal.

Central Adoption Resource Authority Portal

6.15 A software for monitoring adoption of children in and intra country has been designed. This is a important portal on child adoption and links with aspirations of prospective parents. The entire process of child reaching the adoption agency, various phases of clearances and medical tests, registration of prospective parents and final adoption apart from monitoring the child in the new found adopted home is covered by the programme. Various levels of training and hand holding sessions at five regional centres have been organized.

Budget Monitoring System

6.16 **Budget Monitoring System** was developed and implemented in the Finance wing of the Ministry. With the help of this package, ministry is capturing scheme wise details of funds sanctioned and released.

Intranet Based Integrated Office Automation

6.17 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.

6.18 NIC provided assistance to the Parliament Section for regular on line transmission of Parliament Questions to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

6.19 The Ministry of Women and Child Development has a website www.wcd.nic.in which is maintained by the NIC and updated periodically. 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.

Important Audit Observations

6.20 Important Audit observations pertaining to the Ministry, as received from C & AG for inclusion in the Annual Report-2009-10, are given in **Annexure-XXX**.

Creation of Posts

6.21 One post each of Joint Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Section Officer, Stenographer Grade [A&B Merged], Steno Grade C and Accountant have been created for ICDS Division.

Reservation for Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes

6.22 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.

Prime Minister's New 15-Point Programmes for the Welfare of Minorities

6.23 A Joint Secretary has been nominated as the nodal officer for the purpose. Food and Nutrition Board and other affiliated organisation under the Ministry have been requested to take action by organizing campaign to disseminate information on affirmative action on recruitment of minorities in the Government and PSU/autonomous bodies.

Public and Staff Grievances

6.24 Public Grievances received in the Ministry by post as well as online through CPGRAMS are attended on top priority. Deputy Secretary (Admn) is the Public

Grievances Officer of Ministry of Women and Child Development. For strong and effective internal grievances redressal mechanism in the Ministry, all Divisional Heads in the Ministry and all attached/subordinate office are appointed as nodal officers for public grievances in respect of their Division/Office.

Information Facilitation Center (IFC)

6.25 Information Facilitation Center (IFC) has been started as a single window for public relations. The Center provides information on different Programs and schemes of the Ministry. It also provides copies of news magazines and other information literature from different organizations under the Ministry, such as FNB, CSWB, NCW, NIPCCD, NCPCR, CARA and RMK. It assists voluntary organizations to track the status of their application and help familiarize them with online applications tracking system. It also functions as Right to Information (RTI) Cell i.e. nodal unit for receiving RTI applications.

Right to Information Act

6.26 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 the Appellate Authorities and PIOs / APIOs have been posted on the official web site of the Ministry www.wcd.nic.in. During the year 2008-09, 232 applications and during the year 2009-10 (upto January, 2010), 351 applications were received which were sent to the concerned Public Information Officers in the Ministry for providing information to the applicant seeking information under RTI Act.

Parliamentary Committees

6.27 The composition of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource

Development for Demand for Grants is at **Annexure-XXXI**. The Committee inter alia examined the implementation of various Welfare Schemes of the Ministry.

After the formation of Ministry of Women & Child Development in 2006, Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament attached to Ministry of Women & Child Development was constituted. The composition of the latest Committee is at **Annexure-XXXII**.

Use of Hindi in Official Work

6.28 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.

6.29 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 04.09.2009. Hindi Fortnight was celebrated in the Ministry from 14-28 September, 2009. During the period, Noting and Drafting, General Knowledge and Essay Writing competitions were organized. Twelve officials have been awarded. Award Scheme to encourage the officials to work in Hindi was implemented during the year. Hindi

software has been loaded in computers to facilitate working on computers in Hindi. The constitution of Hindi Advisory Committee is under way.

6.30 In addition to the above items of work relating to the implementation of Official Language policy, the important documents/material translated in Hindi during the period under report include Annual Report 2008-09, Outcome Budget, 2008-09, material relating to Booklet of the schemes of the Ministry, replies to Parliament questions, Cabinet Notes etc.

Annual Plan and Action Plan

6.31 The Plan outlays for the year 2009-10 was fixed at Rs.7350 crores. The revised outlays (Plan) have been fixed at Rs.8550 crores. Scheme-wise details are given at **Annexure-XXXIII**. Outlay for 2010-11 has been fixed at Rs 11,000 crore.

Plan for the North-East Region

6.32 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)

6.33 The schemes and programmes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development 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.

6.34 The Ministry has been implementing one of the largest area based scheme of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS). More than 3/4th of the Ministry's annual budget is earmarked for ICDS. To attain the objective of complete

universalisation of ICDS scheme the total number of sanctioned projects has increased to 7073 to cover the hitherto uncovered habitations / settlements across the country with special focus on coverage of SC/ST population, Government of India in October, 2008, has approved the third phase expansion of ICDS Scheme. With this,

6.35 Under total operationalised ICDS projects, in terms of the out-reach of the services more than 30% of the beneficiaries (pregnant & lactating mother and children below 6 years of age) are to be from SC & ST categories. During 2008-09, the percentages of overall beneficiaries in the country for SCs were 21.45 % and for STs was 19%.

6.36 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. CFNEUs have trained 3,300 SC/ST beneficiaries as trainees of the training

course in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits & Vegetables and Nutrition and total 111 training courses for exclusively SC/ST community were organised during April to December, 2009.

6.37 The **Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB)** has framed the grant-in-aid rules to encourage involvement of SC and ST participants and has made special provision/stipulation regarding their involvement and participation.

6.38 The scheme of **Hostels for Working Women (WWH)** and the schemes of **Support for Training and Employment Programme (STEP)** implemented by the Ministry provides for seats upto 15% and 7.5% for women belonging to SC and ST communities, respectively.

6.39 Most of the programmes of the Ministry, particularly, those of 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.