



A STUDY ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT SCHEMES IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Women's empowerment has become a significant topic of discussion in development and economics. It can also point to approaches regarding other trivialized genders in a particular political or social context. Empowering women to participate fully in economic life across all sectors is essential to build stronger economies, achieve internationally agreed goals for development and sustainability, and improve the quality of life for women, men, families and communities. Give power or authority to; authorize, especially by legal or official means: I empowered my agent to make the deal for me. The local ordinance empowers the board of health to close unsanitary restaurants. Women empowerment can be defined in very simple words that it is making women powerful so that they can take their own decisions regarding their lives and well being in the family and society. It is empowering women to make them able to get their real rights in the society. Women's Empowerment Principles: Equality Means Business. Empowering women to participate fully in economic life across all sectors is essential to build stronger economies, achieve internationally agreed goals for development and sustainability, and improve the quality of life for women, men, families and communities. As we all know that India is a male dominated country where males are dominated in every area and females are forced to be responsible for only family care and live in the home including other many restrictions. Almost 50% of the population in India is covered by the female only so the full development of the country depends on the half population means women, who are not empowered and still restricted by many social taboos. In such condition, we cannot say that our country would be a developed in the future without empowering its half population means women. If we want to make our country a developed country, first of all it is very necessary to empower women by the efforts of men, government, laws and women too. The Government Of India initiated so many Schemes for empowerment of Women. Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India has started so many Programmes. The Study is Purely Theoretical. The Study is based on secondary data sources. The necessary information about the Women Empowerment Schemes in India and its various components are collected from Books, Journals, Internet Source or related topic. The Researcher study about the Importance of women Empowerment in India. The Research Work includes I. Introduction about Women Empowerment II. Methodology III. Women Empowerment Schemes in India. IV Conclusion. etc.

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INTRODUCTION

The need of women empowerment arose because of the gender discrimination and male domination in the Indian society since ancient time. Women are being suppressed by their family members and society for many reasons. They have been targeted for many types of violence and discriminatory practices by the male members in the family and society in India and other countries as well.

Wrong and old practices for the women in the society from ancient time have taken the form of well developed customs and traditions. There is a tradition of worshipping many female goddesses in India including giving honour to the women forms in the society like mother, sister, daughter, wife and other female relatives or friends. But, it does not mean that only respecting or honouring women can fulfil the need of development in the country. It needs the empowerment of the rest half population of the country in every walk of life.

India is a famous country proving the common proverb like 'unity is diversity', where people of many religious beliefs are in the Indian society. Women have been given a special place in every religion which is working as a big curtain covering the eyes of people and help in the continuation of many ill practices (including physical and mental) against women as a norm since ages. In the ancient Indian society, there was a custom of sati pratha, nagar vadhu system, dowry system, sexual violence, domestic violence, female infanticide, parda pratha, wife burning, sexual harassment at work place, child marriage, child labour, devadashi pratha, etc including other discriminatory practices. All such type of ill practices is because of male superiority complex and patriarchal system of the society.

The most famous saying said by the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is "To awaken the people, it is the women who must be awakened. Once she is on the move, the family moves, the village moves, the nation moves". In India, to empower the women, first it needs to kill all the demons killing women's rights and values in the society such as dowry system, illiteracy, sexual harassment, inequality, female infanticide, and domestic violence against women, rape, prostitution, illegal trafficking and other issues. Gender discrimination in the nation brings cultural, social, economic and educational differences which push country back. The most effective remedy to kill such devils is making women empowered by ensuring the Right to Equality mentioned in the Constitution of India. Giving priority to the gender equality facilitates women empowerment all over the country. To get the high level goal of women empowerment, it should be promoted from the childhood in each and every family. It needs women to be strong physically, mentally and socially. Since the better education can be started at home from childhood, the upliftment of women needs healthy family to bring a holistic development of the nation. Still in many backward areas, there is a trend of early marriage and childbirth because of the poverty, insecurity and illiteracy of the parents. In order to empower women, various steps have been taken by the government to prevent violence, social separation, gender discrimination and abuse against women.

108th Constitutional Amendment Bill (also called Women's Reservation Bill) was passed to reserve one-third of the seats for women only in the Lok Sabha to make them actively involved in every area. In other fields also the seats for women have been reserved for their active participation without any limitation and competition. Various mass campaigns need to be organized in the backward rural areas to make them aware about the real values of women and all the facilities available by the government for their bright future. They need to be promoted for the survival and proper education of female child to really bring the dream of women empowerment come true. Gender inequality is the main social issues in India in which women are getting back in the male dominated country. Women empowerment needs to take a high speed in this country to equalize the value of both genders. Uplifting of women in all means should be the utmost priority of the nation. Inequalities between men and women in the society generate lots of problems which become a big obstruction in the way to success of nation. It is the birth rights of the women to get equal value to the men in the society. To really bring empowerment, every woman needs to be aware about their rights from their own end. They need to take positive steps and involve in every activities instead of only involving in the

household chores and family responsibilities. They should know about all the happenings in their surroundings and country. Women empowerment has the power to change many things in the society and country. They are much better than men to deal with certain problems in the society. They can better understand the disadvantages of the overpopulation for their family and country. They are fully able to handle the economic conditions of the family and country through proper family planning. Women are capable enough to handle any impulsive violence in comparison to the men whether in the family or society.

Through women empowerment, it can be possible to change the male dominated country into the equally dominated country of rich economy. Empowering women may easily help to grow each and every member of the family without any extra effort. A woman is considered to be responsible for everything in the family so she can better solve all the problems from her own end. Empowerment of the women would automatically bring empowerment of everyone. Women empowerment is the better treatment of any big or small problems related to human being, economy or environment. In few last years, the advantages of the women empowerment are coming out in front of us. Women are being more conscious about their health, education, career, job and responsibilities towards family, society and country. They are taking part in the every area and showing their great interest in each field. Finally, after long years of hard struggle they are getting their rights to go ahead on the right track. In this way The Government of India Started so many Schemes for empowerment of Women.

METHODOLOGY

The study is based on the secondary data sources. The necessary information about the women Empowerment Schemes in India and its various components are collected from various books, journals, internet source of related topics.

Women welfare and Empowerment Schemes of Government of India

Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India have come up with various schemes, programmes, social welfare schemes, Health and Nutrition, scholarship for women empowerment, Girl Child pregnant women, mothers, ward members, Anganwadi Workers, Women Health Volunteers, the women living in the rural & tribal areas, ex-servicemen, physically handicapped, nursing women, Lactating mother, widows/destitute, Old age women, women self-help group (SHG), Women Entrepreneurs and Adolescent Girls'. Also, it helps to the women and child belonging to Scheduled Caste(SC) and Scheduled Tribe(ST), Other Backward Classes(OBC), Socially and Educationally Backward Classes(SEBC) Minority Category, below poverty line(BPL) and also for General Category This scheme provides assistance for Education, Training, Financial assistance/Cash, Subsidy on the loans, Scholarship, Nutrition, self-employment and other facilities. The prime goal is for empowerment, development, protection and welfare of Women & Child.

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme

Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India.

Description

Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (Save girl child, educate girl child) is Central Government Sponsored Scheme by Government of India. The prime goal of this scheme is to generate awareness and improving the efficiency of welfare services meant for women. Also, it aims to celebrate the Girl Child & Enable her Education. The Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme has been introduced to address the issue declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR). This scheme is being implemented through a national campaign and focused multi-sectoral action in 100 selected districts low in CSR, covering all States and UTs. This scheme is implemented by the joint initiative of Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Human Resource Development. Prime Minister Modi launched the programme on 22 January 2015 from Panipat, Haryana on the occasion of International Day of the Girl Child, Prime Minister Modi, called for the eradication of female foeticide.

Objective

The objectives of this scheme are as follows:

- To prevent gender biased sex selective elimination.
- To ensure survival & protection of the girl child.
- To ensure education of the girl child.

Eligibility

All Girl child

Beneficiaries

All Girl child

Benefits

The benefits of this scheme are summarized as below:

- Improvement of the Nutrition status of girls by reducing number of underweight and anemic girls under 5 years of age
- Ensuring girls' attendance and equal care monitored, using joint ICDS NRHM Mother Child Protection Cards.
- Increasing the girl's enrolment in secondary education
- This scheme provides girl's toilet in every school.
- It aims to promote a protective environment for Girl Children through implementation of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences
- Train Elected Representatives/ Grassroot functionaries as Community Champions to mobilize communities to improve CSR & promote Girl's education.
- Reduction of Gender differentials and child mortality
- To improve the Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB)
- Evolving a sustained Social Mobilization and Communication Campaign to change societal norms, to create equal value for the girl child.
- Mobilizing and empowering frontline worker teams as catalysts for social change, in partnership with local community/women's/youth groups

- Developing capacity of Panchayati Raj Institutions/Urban local bodies - especially women panchayat /urban local body members, to create community and peer support for making panchayats / urban wards girl child friendly.

How to Apply

Contact to any of the following:

- At the National level, Contact to Ministry of Women and Child Development, India.
- At the State level, Contact to Project Management Unit (PMU) supported by National Resource Centre for Women (NRCW) Or Principal Secretary, WCD/Social Welfare
- At the District level, Contact to District Collector/Deputy Commissioner/CEO Zila Parishad OR District Programme Officer (DPO) in the District ICDS Office
- At the Block level, Contact to Sub Divisional Magistrate/Sub Divisional Officer/Block Development Officer
- At the Gram Panchayat/Ward level, Contact to respective Panchayat Samiti/Ward Samiti
- At Village level, Contact to Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committees
- In identified cities/ urban areas, Contact to Municipal Corporations.

Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) for the pregnant and lactating women

Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India.

Description

The Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) is a maternity benefits scheme implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government Of India. This scheme is for the pregnant and lactating women of 19 years of age or above for first two live births to contribute to a better enabling environment by providing conditional cash transfer for improved health and nutrition and to also promote health and nutrition seeking behavior in them. It provides partial wage compensation to women for wage-loss during childbirth and childcare and to provide conditions for safe delivery and good nutrition and feeding practices. It provides cash maternity benefit to the women. The pregnant women of 19 years of age and above is entitled to a cash incentive of Rs. 4000 in three installments for first two live births.

Objective

The objectives of this scheme are summarized as below:

- To promoting appropriate practice, care and institutional service utilization during pregnancy, safe delivery and lactation
- To encouraging the women to follow (optimal) nutrition and Young Child feeding practices, including early and Exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months; and

- To providing cash incentives for improved health and nutrition to pregnant and lactating mothers in order to contribute to better enabling environment

Eligibility

Pregnant Women & Lactating women of 19 years of age and above for their first 2 live births. Women have to register pregnancy at the Anganwadi centre (AWC) within four months of conception Women have to register the birth

Beneficiaries

Pregnant and Lactating Women

Benefits

The conditional cash transfer benefits of Rs. 6,000/- to be paid in two installments of Rs. 3,000 /-

- The first transfer (at the end of second birth / pregnancy trimester) of Rs. 3,000 /- to the mother
- The second transfer (three months after delivery) of Rs. 3,000 /- to the mother.

How to Apply

Contact to any of the followings:

- Contact to Deputy Director/ District Programme Officer in-charge of the ICDS Cell Or
- Contact to Anganwadi worker or Anganwadi centre (AWC)

One Stop Centre Scheme for women

Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India.

Description

One Stop Centres (OSC) are meant to support women affected by violence, in private and public spaces, within the family, community and at the workplace. Women facing physical, sexual, emotional, psychological and economic abuse, irrespective of age, class, caste, education status, marital status, race, and culture will be facilitated with support and redressal. Aggrieved women facing any kind of violence due to attempted sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, trafficking, honour-related crimes, acid attacks or witch-hunting who have reached out or been referred to the OSC will be provided with specialized services. OSC are set up in each State/UT. This scheme facilitates access to an integrated range of services including medical, legal, and psychological support. The OSC will be integrated with Helpline No. 181 and other existing helplines.

Women affected by violence and in need of redressal, services could be referred to OSC through these helplines.

Objective

The objectives of this scheme are as below:

- To provide integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence, both in private and public spaces under one roof.

- To facilitate immediate, emergency and non-emergency access to a range of services including medical, legal, psychological and counseling support under one roof to fight against any forms of violence against women.

Eligibility

The OSC will support all women including girls below 18 years of age affected by violence, irrespective of caste, class, religion, region, sexual orientation or marital status.

Beneficiaries

Women, Girls

Benefits

The overall benefits under this scheme are summarized as below:

Emergency Response and Rescue Services OSC will provide rescue and referral services Medical assistance Women affected by violence would be referred to the nearest Hospital for medical aid/examination. Assistance to women in lodging FIR/NCR/DIR. The OSC will facilitate the lodging of FIR/NCR/DIR. Psycho-social support/ counseling. A skilled counselor providing psycho-social counseling services would be available on call. This counseling the process will give women confidence and support to address violence or to seek justice for the violence perpetuated. Counselors shall follow a prescribed code of ethics, guidelines and protocols for providing counseling services.

Legal aid and counseling

To facilitate access to justice for women affected by violence, legal aid, and counseling would be provided at OSC through empanelled Lawyers or National/State/District Legal Service Authority.

Shelter

The OSC will provide temporary shelter facility to aggrieved women. For long term shelter requirements, arrangements will be made with Swadhar Greh/Short Stay Homes (managed/affiliated with government/NGO). Women affected by violence along with their children (girls of all ages and boys up till 8 years of age) can avail a temporary shelter at the OSC for a maximum period of 5 days. The admissibility of any woman to the temporary the shelter would be at the discretion of Centre Administrator.

Video Conferencing Facility

To facilitate speedily and hassle free police and court proceedings the OSC will provide video conferencing facility (through Skype, Google Conferencing etc.). Through this facility, if the aggrieved woman wants, she can record her statement for police/ courts from OSC itself using audio-video electronic

How to Apply

Contact to any of the following:

- Call to Helpline No. 181

- Contact to Anganwadi Worker Or Community Outreach Or Volunteer Or
- Send a text message (SMS/Internet) to the District Programme Officer (DPO) Or Protection Officer (PO) Or Community Development Programme Officer (CDPO)/ Station House Officer (SHO) Or District Magistrate (DM) Or Superintendent of Police (SP) Or Deputy Superintendent of Police (DYSP) Or Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of the district in which the women is located at the time of accessing OSC. Contact to Supervisor of OSC Administrator
- Contact to Case Worker Or
- Contact to Police Facilitation Officer (PFO) Or
- 6. Contact to Para Legal Personnel/ Lawyer Or
- Contact to Para Medical Personne Or
- Contact to Counsellor Or
- Contact to IT Staff Or
- Contact to Multi- purpose Helper Or
- Contact to Security Guard/ Night Guard Or

Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for children Health Check-up, Food, nutrition

Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India.

Description

With rising employment opportunities for women and the growing need to supplement household income, more and more women are entering the job market. With the breaking up of joint family system and the increasing number of nuclear families, working women need help in terms of quality, substitute care for their young children while they are at work. Creche and Day Care Services are not only required by working mothers but also women belonging to poor families, who require support and relief for childcare as they struggle to cope with the burden of activities, within and outside the home.

Therefore women need a safe place for their children in their absence. It has become necessary to provide support to the young children in terms of quality, substitute care and other services while the mothers are at work. A crèche is a facility which supports/ make able to parents to leave their children while they are at work and where children are provided the stimulating environment for their holistic development. Creches are developed in such a way that they provide group care to children, usually up to 6 years of age, who need care, guidance and supervision away from their home during the day.

The objectives of this scheme are as follows

- To provide day-care facilities for children (6 months to 6 years) of working mothers in the community.
- To improve nutrition and health status of children.
- To promote physical, cognitive, social and emotional development (Holistic Development) of children.
- To educate and empower parents /caregivers for better childcare.

Eligibility

The scheme focuses on children of 6 months to 6 years, of working women in rural and urban areas who are employed for

a minimum period of 15 days in a month, or six months in a year.

Beneficiaries

Women, Child

Benefits

The scheme will provide the following services:

- Daycare Facilities including Sleeping Facilities.
- Early Stimulation for children below 3 years and Pre-school Education for 3 to 6 years old children.
- Supplementary Nutrition(to be locally sourced)
- Growth Monitoring.
- Health Check-up and Immunization.
- Other services provided under this scheme are as Drinking water and Sanitary Facilities, Food and Cooking Facilities, Growth Monitoring, Health Check-up, Medicine & First Aid Kit, Equipment, and Play Material

How to Apply

Contact to any of the followings:

- Contact to Anganwadi Centres under ICDS Scheme.
- Contact to NGOs implementing under this scheme.
- At Block level like Tehsildar/Block Development Officer, local Child Development Project Officer, a representative from the local Health Department and a Social Welfare Officer of the area.

Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) Ministry Of Women and Child Development, India

Description

The STEP Programme is a 100% Central Sector Scheme. Under this scheme, Training is provided to poor and marginalized women in traditional trades which are largely in the informal sector. The Programme of STEP advocates the objective of extending training for up-gradation of skills and employment for women through a variety of action-oriented projects.

STEP Program has been introduced to address occupational aspirations of poor women who do not have the opportunity of formal skill training. This scheme emphasis on Skill Development for self or wage employment because Skills and knowledge are the driving forces of economic growth and social development of a country.

Objective

The objectives of this scheme are as below:

- To provide skills that give employability to women.
- To provide competencies and skills that enable women to become self-employed/entrepreneurs.
- To upgrade the skills of poor and marginalized women.
- To provide employment to them on a sustainable basis.

Eligibility

All Women who are in the age group of 16 years and above.

Beneficiaries

Women who are in the age group of 16 years and above.

Benefits

Under this scheme, Assistance is given in any sector i.e Agriculture, Horticulture, Food Processing, Handlooms, Tailoring, Stitching, Embroidery, Zari etc Handicrafts, Computer & IT enabled services along with soft skills and skills for the workplace such as spoken English, Gems & Jewellery, Travel & Tourism and Hospitality. for imparting skills related to employability and entrepreneurship. Provision of for support services (Health, Childcare, Education, sanitation etc.), access to credit and imparting nutrition education

How to Apply

Contact to any of the followings:

- District Collector Or
- Chief Medical Officer Or
- Superintendent of Police Or
- District Social Welfare Officer/Women and Child Development Officer Or
- Representative of District Legal Services Authority Or
- Representative of the Municipal Corporations/Panchayati Raj Institutions Or
- Other eminent persons of the district at the discretion of District Collector

Swadhar Greh- a Scheme that caters to primary needs of women in difficult circumstances Ministry of Women & Child Development

Description

This scheme Swadhar –A Scheme for Women in Difficult Circumstances is meant to provide temporary accommodation, maintenance and rehabilitative services to women and girls rendered homeless due to family discord, crime, violence, mental stress, social ostracism or are being forced into prostitution and are in moral danger

Swadhar –A Scheme for Women in Difficult Circumstances was initiated by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India. This scheme provides shelter, food, clothing, counseling, training, clinical and legal aid aims to rehabilitate women in difficult circumstance.

Objective

Under the Scheme, Swadhar Greh aims to achieve the following objectives:

- To provide to the basic need of shelter, food, clothing, medical treatment and care of the women in distress and who are lacking social and economic support.

- To enable them to recover their emotional strength that gets hampered due to their encounter with unfortunate circumstances.
- To provide them with legal aid and guidance to enable them to take steps for their readjustment in family/society.
- To rehabilitate them economically and emotionally.
- To act as a support system that understands and meets various requirements of women in distress.
- To empower/encourage them to start their life afresh with dignity and conviction.

Eligibility

The benefits could be availed by women above 18 years of age of the following categories:

- Women who are deserted and having no any kind of social and economic support
- Women survivors of natural disasters who have been rendered homeless and having no any kind of social and economic support
- Women prisoners get released from jail and are without family, social and economic support.
- Women victims of domestic violence, family tension or discord, who are made to leave their homes without any means of subsistence and have no special protection from exploitation and/ or facing litigation on account of marital disputes.
- Trafficked women/girls rescued or run away from brothels or other places where they face exploitation and Women affected by HIV/AIDS who do not have any social or economic support. However such women/girls should first seek assistance under Ujjawala Scheme in areas where it is in operation.

Beneficiaries

Women

Benefits

The benefits of this scheme are as follows:

- Temporary residential accommodation with the provision of food, clothing, medical facilities etc. are provided to the beneficiaries.
- Provision of Vocational Training and skill up gradation training for economic rehabilitation of such women to the eligible women.
- Counseling, awareness generation, and behavioral training are given.
- Legal aid and Guidance, Medical Facilities are provided
- Also Counseling through telephone facility is given.

How to Apply

Contact to any of the followings

- District Collector Or
- Chief Medical Officer Or
- Superintendent of Police Or

- District Social Welfare Officer/Women and Child Development Officer Or
- Representative of District Legal Services Authority Or
- Representative of the Municipal Corporations/Panchayati Raj Institutions Or
- Other eminent persons of the district at the discretion of District Collector

Women Helpline Scheme for women a single national Help Line Number for Women

Description

Scheme for Universalisation of Women Helpline is meant to provide 24 hours immediate and emergency response to women affected by violence. This scheme is being implemented since from 01-04-2015 by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development. The Scheme of Universalisation of Women Helpline is meant to provide 24 hours immediate and emergency response to women affected by violence through referral (linking with appropriate authority such as police, One Stop Centre, hospital) and information about women related government schemes programs across the country through a single uniform number. Women Helpline (WHL) is working with the One Stop Centre Scheme (OSC) under which one OSC will be set up in every State/UT to provide integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence, both in private and public spaces under one roof. Women affected by violence and in need of redressal services will be referred to OSC through WHL. Under this Scheme, the States/UTs will utilize or augment their existing women helplines through a dedicated single national number. Department of Telecommunication, Government of India has allocated short code 181 to all States/UTs which is being used by some States/UTs such as Delhi, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh as Women Helpline. From any post/pre paid mobile or landline services through any public or private network i.e. GSM, CDMA, 3G, 4G etc can be called to 181 as Women Helpline (WHL).

Objective

The objectives of the Scheme are

- To provide toll-free 24-hours telecom service to women affected by violence seeking support and information
- To help crisis and non-crisis intervention through referral to the appropriate agencies such as police/Hospitals/Ambulance services/District Legal Service Authority (DLSA)/Protection Officer (PO)/OSC.
- To provide information about the appropriate support services, government schemes and programmes available to the woman affected by violence, in her particular situation within the local area in which she resides or is employed.

Eligibility

Any woman or girl facing violence within public or private sphere of life or seeking information about women related programmes or schemes.

Beneficiaries

Women

Benefits

The benefits are summarized as below:

Violence against Women (VAW) Prevention: As soon as an aggrieved woman (AG) or somebody on her behalf will contact WHL, she will be immediately assisted by the call responder appointed there. The responder will refer her to relevant support services like medical aid, police assistance or connect her to OSC for professional counseling, shelter, legal aid etc;

Information of Women Empowerment Schemes and programmes: The information about the laws, existing schemes and government programs related to women empowerment and protection are provided. It will help to women about processes to be adopted for accessing benefits of these schemes and programs.

How to Apply

The Women Helpline will be up and active 24 hours a day 7 days a week to any woman or girl suffering violence or in distress in the following manner:

- Telephone - landlines, mobile phones through calls, SMS/text messaging, mobile apps and fax messages are considered.
- Internet - Via emails, web-posts, web-interface, social networking sites i.e. web page, face book, twitter, mygov etc can be considered.
- Call to any of the following Women Helpline Nos.
- Call to Women's Helpline: 181 Toll free
- Call to 1091- Police Helpline, 102 (hospital/Ambulance) & 108 (Emergency Response Services)
- Contact to One Stop Centre(OSC)

Scheme for Working Women Hostel Hostel, Day Care Centre and Medical aid

Description

The many more women are leaving their homes in search of employment in big cities as well as urban and rural industrial clusters.

One of the main difficulties faced by such women is lack of safe and conveniently located accommodation. Hence this scheme has been initiated by the Government of India. This scheme aims to promote availability of safe and conveniently located accommodation for working women who need to live away from their families due to professional commitments.

Objective

The objectives of this scheme are as below:

To promote availability of safe and conveniently located accommodation for working women, with day care facility for their children, wherever possible, in urban, semi urban, or even rural areas where employment opportunity for women exist.

Eligibility

The working women and their children should satisfy the following conditions:

- Working women, who is single, widowed, divorced, separated, married but whose husband or immediate family does not reside in the same city/area. Women belonging disadvantaged sections of the society are preferred first. Also there is reservation of seats for physically challenged beneficiaries.
- Women who are under training for job provided the total training period does not exceed one year. This is only on the condition that there is vacancy available after accommodating working women. The number of women under training for job should not exceed 30% of the total capacity.
- Girls up to the age of 18 years and boys up to the age of 5 years, accompanying working mothers will be provided accommodation, with their mothers. Day Care Centre are serviced for the working mothers, as provided under the scheme.
- The income of working women should not more than Rs. 50,000/- consolidated (gross) per month in metropolitan cities, or Rs 35,000/- consolidated (gross) per month, in any other place. If yes then the women have to leave the hostel within a period of six months of crossing the income ceiling.

Beneficiaries

Working Women

Benefits

Hostel, Day Care Centre and Medical first aid are benefitted to the beneficiaries.

How to Apply

Contact to any of the following:

- At the District level, Contact to District Collector Or District Magistrate Or Municipal Commissioner Or
- Contact to District Social Welfare Officer Or Probation Officer Or any other State Government representative
- Contact to representative of an NGO working in the district that is implementing a project under this Scheme

Conclusion

Women empowerment is empowering the women to take their own decisions for their personal dependent.

Empowering women is to make them independent in all aspects from mind, thought, rights, decisions, etc by leaving all the social and family limitations. It is to bring equality in the society for both male and female in all areas. Women empowerment is very necessary to make the bright future of the family, society and country.

Women need fresh and more capable environment so that they can take their own right decisions in every area whether for themselves, family, society or country. In order to make the country fully developed country, women empowerment is an essential tool to get the goal of development. The government and other private institutions are supporting women in the leadership positions in public sector. Leadership of women in the public sector is the key of development in the nation. Representing women in public sector is only the matter of justice however it needs to bring forward all the perspectives to make of women empowerment effective. Women and men both have unique and different experiences so both are important to bring influence into the decision making process. Equalising the rights of women and men in the society improves work quality and thus economic status of the nation. In order to really bring women empowerment in the Indian society, it needs to understand and eliminate the main cause of the ill practices against women which are patriarchal and male dominated system of the society. It needs to be open-minded and change the old mind set against women together with the constitutional and other legal provisions. Thus In India so many schemes for women empowerment.

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