

**No. CDN/80/2017-Coord.
Government of India
Ministry of Women and Child Development**

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: 17th April, 2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Monthly Summary for the month of March, 2020 in respect of Ministry of Women and Child Development.

The undersigned is directed to circulate herewith a copy of the unclassified portion of the monthly summary in English pertaining to the Ministry of Women and Child Development for the month of March, 2020.

Sd/-
(S. K. Mishra)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India
Telephone: 011 - 23070663

Encl.: As above

To

All the Members of the Council of Ministers

Copy with enclosures forwarded to:

1. Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog.
2. Secretary to the President of India.
3. Secretary to the Vice President of India.
4. Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan [Mr. Bhaskar Dasgupta, Director]
5. Prime Minister's Office [Mr. Rajender Kumar, Director]
6. Chairman, Union Public Service Commission.
7. Principal Director General (M&C), M/o Information & Broadcasting.
8. All Secretaries to the Government of India.
9. PS to Minister, WCD/PS to MoS, WCD.
10. Sr. Tech. Director, NIC, MWCD with a request to upload this on the Ministry's website.

Monthly Summary Report for the month of March, 2020 in respect of Ministry of Women and Child Development

The significant events relating to the work of Ministry of Women and Child Development for the month ending March, 2020 are as follows:

1. **Media and Publicity Campaign (1st - 7th March, 2020) as a run up to International Women's Day, 2020**

Hon'ble Minister, WCD while chairing an Inter-Ministerial Meeting on 24.02.2020 elaborated that International Women's Day celebration on 08.03.2020 would be a celebration of the aspirations, new found hope, immeasurable potential of women in India who are redefining the social and economic contours of a *Women Led India – a Transformed India* under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister. It was, therefore, decided to launch a Campaign from 1st to 7th March, 2020 as a run up to the International Women's Day. Accordingly, Ministries/ Departments were requested to organize various events/ activities during the campaign.

Some of the events organized are mentioned below:

1.1 A Book titled '*Beti Bachao Beti Padhao: Chronicles of Change Champions*' was launched by Hon'ble Minister, WCD on 5th March, 2020. The book is a collection of 25 innovative initiatives taken at the State and District levels under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme. It captures the convergent approach adopted at the grass root level while also providing insights into the unique manner of community engagement by the District Administration and frontline workers.

1.2 A Symposium event titled "*The Future of Work: Women in India's Workforce*" was co-hosted by the Ministry and World Bank on 6th March, 2020. The event was presided by the Hon'ble Minister WCD. Country Director India (World Bank), and a few Secretaries to the Government of India were also present. It focused on various government interventions for Women Entrepreneur, Skilling & Training and hurdles faced by them to set up their own enterprise, to avail bank loan and join the workforce and the role of women in the India growth story.

1.3 Hon'ble Minister, WCD and Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs along with Hon'ble Ministers of State of both Ministries held an *Interactive Session with Members of the Diplomatic Community* stationed in Delhi on 6th March, 2020 in Jawaharlal Nehru Bhavan, New Delhi on the theme of the campaign and highlighted the achievements of the Government.

1.4 The National Commission for Women (NCW) organized an hour-long "Power Walk" on 1st March, 2020, at India Gate, New Delhi with a successful footfall of about

1500 participants/ students from various Delhi (NCR) based Colleges and Universities including Northeast students in Delhi, social activists, members of Civil Organization, NGOs, and officers from Ministries, senior Army officials, general public and Media. The objective of the Power Walk was to give Women the Right to have the access to public places at any time.

2. Celebration of International Women's Day

International Women's Day was celebrated on 8th March, 2020 wherein 12 '*Nari Shakti Puraskars*' were presented by the Hon'ble President of India to 15 Women recognizing the exceptional work done by them for empowerment of women. Hon'ble Prime Minister also interacted with the awardees of Nari Shakti Puraskars the same day. Hon'ble Minister, WCD hosted a dinner in the evening in the honor of awardees of Nari Shakti Puraskars.

Food and Nutrition Board, through its Community Food and Nutrition Extension Units in 30 States/UTs, celebrated International Women's Day on 8th March, 2020 themed "*I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights*". Various activities like quiz competition, drawing competition, lecture-cum-demonstration, rhymes competition, Nutrition Awareness Programs etc. were organized with active cooperation of respective State Governments, Educational Institutions, NGOs and Media.

3. Celebration of Poshan Pakhwada

The second anniversary of POSHAN Abhiyaan, was celebrated with the launch Poshan Pakhwada on International Women's Day, 08.03.2020, with focus on '*Men for Nutrition - Increasing Male Engagement in POSHAN Abhiyaan to Improve Nutritional Indicators*' with an aim to solicit male participation in improving the health and nutritional indicators among women and children. Various activities were organized by States/UTs, partner Ministries and organizations. Awareness campaign was also conducted on Mass Media and Social Media. Over a span of 9 days, Poshan Pakhwada 2020 recorded 1.45 crore activities on 12 themes. The POSHAN Pakhwada, which was supposed to be held from 8th March to 22nd March 2020, was curtailed and stopped with effect from 16th March, 2020 in view of COVID-19.

4. Celebration of Swachhata Pakhwada from 1st - 15th March, 2020

The Ministry observed *Swachhata Pakhwada* from 1st to 15th March, 2020. The Ministry requested the State Govt. Departments of Women & Child Development /Social Welfare to conduct suggested Swachhata related activities during the Pakhwada and to launch a special drive for construction of toilets during this period and ensure completion of the same by June, 2020 in such Anganwadi Centres which are running in Government owned buildings.

5. Exhibition on “Incredible Journey of Women Artisans & Weavers”

The Ministry in collaboration with Ministry of Textiles organized an exhibition “Incredible Journey of Women Artisans & Weavers” at Dilli Haat, INA during 1st - 15th March, 2020. This collaborative initiative of the two Ministries provided Women Artisans and Weavers a platform to showcase their skills and sell their products. The idea behind organising this programme has been to celebrate the journey of these artisans as women achievers under the *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* scheme.

6. Consultation on ‘Effective methods to assist Women Led Enterprises’

A Consultation on ‘Effective methods to assist Women Led Enterprises’ was organized in collaboration with Ministry of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises, on 11th March, 2020 at India International Centre, New Delhi. The aim of the Consultation was to prepare a road map for reaching out to clusters of women led MSMEs to improve their skills in managing their enterprises and increase productivity of their enterprises. Representatives from various Ministries and Departments of Govt. of India, organizations and women entrepreneurs shared their views.

7. Other Meetings/ Conferences and Consultations

7.1 Meeting of Empowered Committee (EC) of officers constituted under Nirbhaya framework was held on 18.03.2020 under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, WCD in which 2 proposals of Ministry of Home Affairs for strengthening of State Forensic Science Laboratory (SFLs) in Odisha, Puducherry & Goa and Training of Investigating Officers from States/ UTs by Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) were appraised and recommended. The Committee also appraised and recommended a proposal of AIIMS, New Delhi received through Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MH&FW) for setting up of a National One Stop Centre for women affected by violence.

7.2 The PAB (Project Approval Board) for the One Stop Centre (OSC) Scheme during its meeting on 20.03.2020 under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, WCD approved 5 more OSCs for newly formed districts since the last PAB approval.

8. Measures to ensure safety of Women & Children living across the country in MWCD institutions in view of spread of COVID-19

A number of measures were taken by the Ministry to ensure the safety and well-being of the residents/ inmates of Women & children like One Stop Centres (OSCs), Swadhar Grih Homes, Ujjawala Homes, Working Women Hostels (WWHs), Child Care Institutions (CCIs), Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs) etc. Some of these are listed below:

8.1 On 31.03.2020, the Ministry appointed State Nodal officers and the States were asked to share details of Women and Children living in MWCD supported homes, their health status, availability of medical care etc. on weekly basis. States/UTs were also asked to monitor the situation regarding preventive measures taken to contain the spread of COVID-19 amongst children living in CCIs.

8.2 Childline, the 24*7 emergency outreach tele service, supported by the Government, was advised on 19.03.2020 to continue assisting children. States/UTs were also informed on 23.03.2020 regarding availability of Childline and were requested to facilitate their functioning.

9. Media Campaign on Protection of Women

National Commission for Women launched a media campaign on *Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013* and *Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005* through NFDC/ Doordarshan/ All India Radio/ TV channel/ Private FM channels etc. w.e.f. 25th March, 2020.

10. Video Conferences with States/UTs and Aspirational Districts

A Video Conference with the Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries of some States and the District Magistrates of some Districts was held on 16th March, 2020 on Action plan to improve Nutritional Indicators under Aspirational Districts Programme.

11. One Stop Centers and Women Helpline

As on 31st March, 2020, 683 One Stop Centres were functional in 34 States/ UTs and Women Helpline was functional in 32 States/ UTs.

12. Food and Nutrition Board (FNB)

During the month of March, FNB inspected **285** Anganwadi Centers for monitoring Supplementary Nutrition Programme of ICDS; **273** Nutrition Education Programmes for creating awareness on importance of nutrition, nutrient conservation, proper cooking methods etc; **15** training programmes (including **03** exclusively for SC/ST beneficiaries) on Home Scale Preservation of Fruits & Vegetables; **33** Orientation Training Courses (OTCs) on Nutrition for grassroot level functionaries from ICDS and Health, adolescent girls, pregnant and newly married women, communities and PRIs, etc.

The Community Food and Nutrition Extension Unit of FNB organized **05** Training of Trainers programme (TOT) on Nutrition for Master Trainers comprising of Child

Development Project Officers (CDPOs), Medical Officers, Supervisors of ICDS, Teachers, etc. who, in turn, act as trainers for the grassroots level functionaries of ICDS and the community at large.

13. Minimum Government, Maximum Governance:

13.1 Video Conferences are being held regularly for inter-action and dialogues with States/UTs for effective implementation of various schemes.

13.2 Full-fledged e-Office implementation by Ministry has resulted in savings to Government exchequer. Also, substantial number of Inter - Ministerial communications are made through e-mail.

13.3 All Policies/ Programmes/ Schemes/ Acts/ Sanction orders etc. are loaded on public domain for easy access by stakeholders.

14. Status of Public Grievances:

No. of Public Grievances disposed off during the month	No. of Public Grievances pending at the end of the month (31.03.2020)
314	200
