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Paper : SCHEMES AND PROGRAMMES FOR COMMUNITY WELFARE

UNIT 1  
SCHEMES AND SERVICES FOR WOMEN

PROGRAMMES OF DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN & CHILD  
DEVELOPMENT

# MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT



## **Introduction**

The Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India, came into existence as a separate Ministry with effect from 30th January, 2006, earlier since 1985 it was a Department under the Ministry of Human Resources Development.

The Ministry was constituted with the prime intention of addressing gaps in State action for women and children for promoting inter-Ministerial and inter-sectoral convergence to create gender equitable and child-centred legislation, policies and programmes.

## **Vision and Mission**

### **Vision**

Empowered women living with dignity and contributing as equal partners in development in an environment free from violence and discrimination. And, wellnurtured children with full opportunities for growth and development in a safe and protective environment.

## **Mission**

1. Promoting social and economic empowerment of women through cross-cutting policies and programmes, mainstreaming gender concerns, creating awareness about their rights and facilitating institutional and legislative support for enabling them realize their human rights and develop to their full potential.
2. Ensuring development, care and protection of children through cross-cutting policies and programmes, spreading awareness about their rights and facilitating access to learning, nutrition, Institutional and legislative support for enabling them to grow and develop to their full potential.

## **Mandate:**

The broad mandate of the Ministry is to have holistic development of **Women and Children**. As a nodal Ministry for the advancement of women and children, the **Ministry formulates plans, policies and programmes; enacts/ amends legislation**, guides and coordinates the efforts of both governmental and non-governmental organisations working in the field of Women and Child Development. Besides, playing its nodal role, the Ministry implements certain innovative programmes for women and children. These programmes cover welfare and support services, training for employment and income generation, awareness generation and gender sensitization. These programmes play a supplementary and complementary role to the other general developmental programmes in the sectors of health, education, rural development etc. All these efforts are directed to ensure that women are empowered both economically and socially and thus become equal partners in national development along with men.

## **Policy Initiatives:**

For the holistic development of the child, the Ministry has been implementing the world's largest and most unique and outreach programme of **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)** providing a package of services comprising supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check up and referral services, pre-school non-formal education. There is effective coordination and monitoring of various sectoral programmes. Most of the programmes of the Ministry are run through non-governmental organisations. Efforts are made to have more effective involvement of NGOs. The major policy initiatives undertaken by the Ministry in the recent past include universalisation of ICDS and **Kishori Shakti Yojana**, launching a nutrition programme for adolescent girls, establishment of the Commission for protection of Child Rights and enactment of **Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act**.

## **Organisation:**

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is headed by **Hon'ble Minister Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Minister of State Sushri Debasree Chaudhuri and Shri Ram Mohan Mishra is the Secretary of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.** The activities of the Ministry are undertaken through seven bureaux.

**The Ministry has 6 autonomous organisations viz.**

- **National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)**
- **National Commission for women (NCW)**
- **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)**
- **Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA)**
- **Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB)**
- **Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)**

working under its aegis. NIPCCD and RMK 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 organisations are fully funded by the Govt. of India and they assist the Department in its functions including implementation of some 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. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights which is a national level apex statutory body constituted in the March 2007 for protecting and safe guarding the rights of children.

## **Subjects Allocated to the Ministry**

- Welfare of the family.
- Women and Child Welfare and Coordination of activities of other Ministries and Organisation in connection with this subject.
- References from the United Nations Organizations relating to traffic in Women and Children
- National Nutrition Policy, national Plan of Action for Nutrition and National Nutrition Mission.
- Charitable and religious endowments pertaining to subjects allocated to this Department
- Promotion and development of voluntary effort on the subjects allocated to this Department
- **Implementation of -**
  - **Immoral Traffic in Women and Girl Act. 1956 (as amended upto 1986).**

- **The Indecent Representation of Women (Prevention) Act, 1986 (60 of 1986).**
  - **The Dowry Prohibition Act. 1961 (28 of 1961)**
  - **The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987 (3 of 1988), excluding the administration of criminal justice in regard to offences under these Acts.**
  - **Implementation of the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Food (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1992 (41 of 1992).**
  - Coordination of activities of Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE)
  - Planning, Research, Evaluation, Monitoring, Project Formulations, Statistics and Training relating to the welfare and development of women and children, including development of gender sensitive data base.
  - **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**
  - **Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB)**
  - **National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)**
  - Food and Nutrition Board
  - **Food and Nutrition Board (FNB)**
  - Development and popularization of subsidiary and protective foods.
  - Nutrition extension.
- Women's Empowerment and Gender Equity.**
- **National Commission for Women.**
  - **Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)**
  - **The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (56 of 2000).**
  - Probation of Juvenile offenders.
  - Issues relating to adoption, **Central Adoption Resource Agency** and **Child Help Line (Childline)**
  - **The Children Act, 1960 (60 of 1960)**
  - **The Child Marriage - Restraint Act, 1929 (19 of 1929)**

# **1. National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)**

## **Objective**

1. Develop and promote voluntary action in social development through training & capacity building of Government and Non-Government functionaries;
2. Take a comprehensive view of child development through research and develop tools/design for supporting implementation of Government schemes and programmes and;
3. Coordinate Meetings of MWCD with Stakeholders under different Schemes/Programmes and Policies for furthering the objectives and provide feedback.

## **Mission**

To act as a think tank, catalyst and inventor of child rights, child protection and child development programmes by pursuing capacity building of child development functionaries, research and evaluation, networking, consultancy and advisory services as well as provision of specialised services through inter-disciplinary teams.

## **Vision**

NIPCCD is to be seen as an Institute of Global repute in child rights, child protection and child development.

## **Areas of Interest**

- Early childhood care and development.
- Health and nutrition of the young child and mothers.
- Infant and Young Child Feeding.
- Prevention of micronutrient malnutrition.
- Adolescent health, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS.
- Growth monitoring.
- Nutrition and Health Education.
- Child guidance and counselling.
- Early detection and prevention of childhood disabilities.

- Learning and behavioural problems of children and parent education.
- Child rights and Child Protection
  - Child abuse
  - Child Sexual Abuse/ POCSO Act
  - Child online protection
  - Safety and security of children in Child Care Institutions/ Educational Institutions
  - Safety and security of Special Need Children
  - Skill Training for Empowerment of Children in CCIs
- Juvenile justice.
- Women's empowerment and Gender mainstreaming.
- Holistic development of adolescent girls and family life education.
- Prevention of child marriage, female foeticide and female infanticide
- Counselling and support services for women in distress.
- Formation and management of self help groups.
- Prevention of trafficking of women and children.
- Prevention of Gender Based Violence.
- Gender Budgeting.
- Gender sensitisation of law enforcement agencies.
- Partnership initiatives of Government/social organisations in the area of child development.
- Manpower Development in Social Development sector.
- Capacity Building of civil society organisations.

## **2. National Commission for women (NCW)**

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The **National Commission for Women (NCW)** is the statutory body of the [Government of India](#), generally concerned with advising the government on all policy matters affecting women. It was established in 31 January 1992 under the provisions of the [Indian Constitution](#),<sup>[1]</sup> as defined in the 1990 National Commission for Women Act.<sup>[2]</sup> The first head of the commission was [Jayanti Patnaik](#). As of 30 November 2018, [Rekha Sharma](#) is the chairperson.<sup>[3]</sup>

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### Activities

The objective of the NCW is to represent the rights of women in India and to provide a voice for their issues and concerns. The subjects of their campaigns have included [dowry](#), politics, religion, equal representation for women in jobs, and the exploitation of women for labour. They have also discussed police abuses against women

The commission regularly publishes a monthly newsletter, *Rashtra Mahila*, in both Hindi and English.<sup>[5]</sup>

### **Mission – Women**

To strive towards enabling women to achieve equality and equal participation in all spheres of life by securing her due rights and entitlements through suitable policy formulation, legislative measures, effective enforcement of laws, implementation of schemes/policies and devising strategies for solution of specific problems/situations arising out of discrimination and atrocities against women.

### Vision

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The Indian Woman, secure in her home and outside, fully empowered to access all her rights and entitlements, with opportunity to contribute equally in all walks of life.

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- [Complaint & Investigation Cell](#)
- [Legal Cell](#)
- [Policy Monitoring and Research Cell](#)
- [Non Resident Indians Cell](#)
- [North East Cell](#)
- [Suo-Motu Cell](#)
- [Public Relations including media management](#)
- [Psychiatric/Custodial Homes Reform Cell](#)
- [Capacity Building Cell](#)
- [Women Safety Cell](#)
- [Women Welfare Cell](#)
- [RTI Cell](#)

### **3. National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)**

The **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament, the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005. The Commission works under the aegis of Ministry of Women and Child Development, GoI. The Commission began operational on 5th March, 2007.

- The Commission is mandated under section 13 of CPCR Act, 2005 "to ensure that all Laws, Policies, Programmes, and Administrative Mechanisms are in consonance with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child."<sup>[2]</sup> As defined by the commission, child includes person up to the age of 18 years.

#### **Activities**

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Commission had asked to form special cells in schools to solve problems of children. The cell will examine the mental and physical torture against children. Complaints regarding sexual harassment mental harassment, favouritism etc. should be informed to the Taluk/District Legal Services Authority within 48 hours.

#### **4. Central Social Welfare Board**

The Central Social Welfare Board was established in 1953 by a Resolution of Govt. of India to carry out welfare activities for promoting voluntarism, providing technical and financial assistance to the voluntary organisations for the general welfare of family, women and children. This was the first effort on the part of the Govt. of India to set up an organization, which would work on the principle of voluntarism as a non-governmental organization. The objective of setting up Central Social Welfare Board was to work as a link between the government and the people.

Dr. Durgabai Deshmukh was the founder Chairperson of the Central Social Welfare Board. Earlier she was in charge of "Social Services" in the Planning Commission and she was instrumental in planning the welfare programmes for the First Five Year Plan. Under the guidance of Dr. Durgabai Deshmukh, various welfare schemes were introduced by the Central Social Welfare Board.

The Central Social Welfare Board obtained its legal status in 1969. It was registered under section 25 of the Indian Companies Act, 1956.

The State Social Welfare Boards were set up in 1954 in all States and Union Territories. The objective for setting up of the State Social Welfare Boards was to coordinate welfare and developmental activities undertaken by the various Departments of the State Govts. to promote voluntary social welfare agencies for the extension of welfare services across the country, specifically in uncovered areas. The major schemes being implemented by the Central Social Welfare Board were providing comprehensive services in an integrated manner to the community.

Many projects and schemes have been implemented by the Central Social Welfare Board like Grant in Aid, Welfare Extension Projects, Mahila Mandals, Socio Economic Programme, Dairy Scheme, Condensed Course of Education Programme for adolescent girls and women, Vocational Training Programme, Awareness Generation Programme, National Creche Scheme, Short Stay Home Programme, Integrated Scheme for Women's Empowerment for North Eastern States, Innovative Projects and Family Counselling Centre Programme.

The scheme of Family Counselling Centre was introduced by the CSWB in 1983. The scheme provides counselling, referral and rehabilitative services to women and children who are the victims of atrocities, family maladjustments and social ostracism and crisis intervention and trauma counselling in case of natural/manmade disasters. Working on the concept of people's participation, 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.

Over six decades of its incredible journey in the field of welfare, development and empowerment of women and children, CSWB has made remarkable contribution for the weaker and marginalized sections of the society. To meet the changing social pattern, CSWB is introspecting itself and exploring new possibilities so that appropriate plan of action can be formulated. Optimal utilisation of ICT facilities will be taken so that effective and transparent services are made available to the stakeholders.

## 5. Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)

**Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) was established by the Government of India in March, 1993 as an autonomous body under the Ministry of Women & Child Development. It was registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860.**

Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), established in 1993 is a national level organization as an autonomous body under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, for socio-economic empowerment of women. The operating model currently followed by RMK is that of a facilitating agency wherein RMK provides loans to NGO-MFIs termed as Intermediary Organizations (IMO) which on-lend to Self Help Groups (SHGs) of women.

### **Mission**

To be a single window facilitator for provision of financial services with backward and forward linkages for women in the unorganized sector through

Intermediary Micro Finance Organizations (IMOs) and Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) and to augment their capacities through multi-pronged efforts.

#### Schemes & Other Activities

The operating model currently followed by RMK is a group model with RMK as a facilitating agency wherein RMK provides loan products to Non – Governmental Organization (NGO)/ Intermediary Micro-financing Organization (IMO) / Voluntary Organisation (VO) which on-lend to Women Groups like SHG, JLG etc