



**PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, WOMEN,  
CHILDREN, YOUTH AND SPORTS**

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports headed by Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe, M.P., Rajya Sabha presented the Three Hundred And Thirty Third Report on **Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Twenty Sixth Report on the Demands For Grants (2021-22) of the Ministry of Women and Child Development** to both the Houses on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2021. Three Hundred and Twenty Sixth Report of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports was presented to Rajya Sabha on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 and simultaneously laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2021. The Action Taken Replies were received from the Ministry of Women and Child Development *vide* their communication dated 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2021. Replies of the Government to the observations/recommendations contained in the Report were considered by the Committee at its meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2021. The Committee considered the draft Report and adopted the same on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2021. The recommendations made by the Committee in the Report are enclosed.

The Report is also available on <https://rajyasabha.nic.in/>

## RECOMMENDATIONS - AT A GLANCE

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE  
GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

(CHAPTER-III of the Report)

1. It has been observed that the Ministry has stated the reasons for gross underutilization of funds for the scheme of POSHAN Abhiyaan only, while the reasons for under-utilisation of funds for other schemes like Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao etc. have been left out. The Committee recommends that the Ministry should look into this matter seriously and to exercise financial prudence and use the allocated funds optimally and judiciously and also provide the State-wise list for under utilization of funds along with the reasons, for other schemes like Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao etc. Unless the utilisation of funds on its key schemes goes up, the allocation has little meaning.

(Para 1)

2. The Ministry has not mentioned about the steps taken by the Ministry to monitor and inspect AWCs to curtail administrative and financial mismanagement at the grass root level. The Committee is of the view that AWC is the focal point for delivery of ICDS services and AWCs require proper infrastructure in order to discharge their functions effectively. Hence, the Committee recommends that the Ministry should ensure that proper infrastructure is available at all AWCs and to apprise the Committee of the efforts taken up by the Ministry in this regard and also the steps taken to monitor and inspect AWCs at the grass root level.

(Para 2)

3. Malnutrition is a chronic problem and a longstanding challenge of the country. The Ministry has not given any information as to whether a monitoring mechanism is being put in place to oversee the distribution system of food packets. The Committee recommends that the Ministry should put in place a monitoring mechanism to address the gaps and inefficiencies in the present distribution system to ensure that the food packets reach the intended beneficiaries. The Committee also recommended the food packets so delivered should meet the nutritional/quality standards. There should be involvement of panchayats and other community groups to ensure that the scheme is being implemented effectively at the grassroots level.

(Para 3)

4. The Committee observes that the said Bill has not been introduced in the parliament so far. The Committee reiterates that the Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill be introduced in Parliament at the earliest.

(Para 4)

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