



**Department of Social Justice & Empowerment  
Govt of Himachal Pradesh**



**Draft proposal  
of  
Sashakt Mahila Yojna  
By**

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## **Shashkat Mahila Yojana**

In the budget speech of financial year 2018-19, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh announced a new comprehensive scheme named "**Sashkat Mahila Yojana**".

### **Vision**

The scheme has been envisaged with a vision to empower the rural women by providing them an interface for organisation and socio-economic development and to make every woman in the state well educated, skilled and self reliant in every respect thereby contributing to the socio-economic development of the state.

The scheme will focus on promotion of socio-economic empowerment of rural women by creating awareness about their rights and facilitating institutional support for enabling them to realize their rights and develop/utilise their full potential.

### **Background**

Women constitute the backbone of the Himalayan economic system of H.P. as agriculture is absolutely dependent on them. Women's socio-economic contribution towards family and the community is highly significant but reciprocal benefits conferred on them are disproportionate. Women undoubtedly play unique role in the socio-economic set up of the economy. In fact, the immense contribution of rural women needs a fresh review in the light of their overall social economic status, awareness, outlook and perception which have so far by and large been unsatisfactorily attended. Women are consciously struggling with the inequitable burdens they bear in relation to their livelihood, health, their political voice, their autonomy within their bodies and their lives. Women's are still not empowered as per the expectation.

The present value system of society has an important bearing in deciding and reserving a role and status for women. Thus, the economic independence to rural women would help in accelerating the pace and result in improving the status of rural women. In order to bridge all the gaps, the new scheme **Sashakt Mahila Yojna** advocates an integrated package on inputs aiming at the self-reliance and empowerment of rural women by enhancing their productivity and enabling them to take up income generation activities by providing marketing assistance to SHGs at panchayat level.

## **II. Objectives:**

Main objectives of the scheme are to:

- I. To Create awareness among rural women about their rights;
- II. To Sensitize women about various schemes initiated by the government for supporting the rural women and to link them to sustainable livelihood opportunities which can help in their future building;
- III. To mobilize women in the age groups of 19-45 years in viable group, improving their skill by imparting training.
- IV. To provide an interface for rural women through socio-economic empowerment;
- V. To encourage adolescent girls excelling in studies for higher studies;
- VI. To ensure their access to nutrition and health education in convergence with the line departments;
- VII. To Strengthen and provide greater financial support to rural women through Micro Credit & Finance for taking up income generation activities.
- VIII. To sensitize Women and adolescent girls on Menstrual Hygiene to build their self-esteem.
- IX. To sensitize of adolescent boys/girls for mutual respect for each other and other gender.
- X. To bring about the behavioural change for better co-existence.

## **Target Group and Eligibility:**

- I. Adolescent Girls in the age Groups of 11-18 Years.
- II. All women in the age group of 19-45 years.

**Target Area:** PAN Himachal.

## **Component of the Scheme:**

### **1. Formation of Sashkt Mahila Kendra**

Sashakt Mahila Kendra will be set up in every panchayat of the state. Sashkt Mahila Kendra will be governed by women aged between 19 to 45 years who have knowledge/ expertise in social work or women related issue in their local area /village. ICDS Circle Supervisors will work as facilitator for the panchayats situated in his/her circle area.

- Sashakt Mahila Kendra will be set up to create awareness among women and girls about their rights and laws related to women.
- Women will be educated about various schemes being implemented by the state and centre government for the welfare and women development.
- Awareness camps for the empowerment of women in Convergence with different departments at panchayat level will be organised and they will be sensitised about the programmes and schemes being implemented by other departments for the upliftment and empowerment.

## **2. Awareness of women rights**

- Capacity building and sensitization about the rights relating to women on different issues through different departments by doing their Training need analysis.
- Organising the Thematic camps at Panchayat level by the supervisor assisted by the Anganwari workers and helpers.
- Themes of these camps will be decided as per their needs or problems faced by the local women under the supervision of Supervisor who will be reporting to the CDPO/DPO.
- In these camps women will also be sensitized regarding Nutrition & Health Education (NHE), Counselling/Guidance on family welfare, ARSH, child care practices & home management etc.
- Awareness of legal rights and laws like Domestic Violence Act, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, Child Marriage (Prohibition) Act, Child Labour Act, RTI Act, Right to Education, etc.
- Development of IEC material and documentation based on gender issues/success stories etc. through SRCW.

## **3. Skill Development and Micro Enterprise Development**

- All SHGs / Mahila Mandals having bank accounts/bank linkage will be imparted need based training for income generation activities like soft toys, pickle and preserve making, jute bag, recycling of waste material, knitting and embroidery products etc. with the view to promote micro enterprise at village level.
- Training /capacity building of SHG members will be ensured in Co-ordination with Skill Development Corporation, ITIs, NABARD and others institutes working in the field of skill development. Possibilities will be explored by the District Level Shashkat Mahila Committee for the marking of SHGs products with the help of

tourism department, temple trusts and rural development department and food processing units.

- **Ghar Ki Raso**i concept will be developed.

#### **4. Sensitization on menstrual hygiene**

- Promotion on Menstrual Hygiene combined with health education for adolescent girls and women.
- Providing timely supply of sanitary napkins in convergence with National Health Mission.
- Enabling other sanitation measures such as access to clean water and toilets in schools and in the community through convergence with other programmes.

#### **V. Activities:**

**Sashakt Mahila Yojna** will undertake activities for the promotion of credit as an instrument of socio-economic change and development through the provision of package of financial and social development services by mobilizing self Help Groups, to demonstrate and replicate participatory approach in the organization of women groups for effective utilization of credit resources leading to self-reliance, to promote the federation and net working of women organizations for shaping & exchange of experience and information and to develop skills in response management & social mobilization, to promote and support the expansion of entrepreneurship skills among women. In order to achieve the objectives of this scheme following activities are proposed to be initiated:

- One time seed money of Rs.50, 000 will be provided to one self help group in each ICDS block for taking up income generating activities. The names of the potential SHGs from

each ICDS blocks will be recommended by the District Level Shashkat Mahila Committee which will be constituted under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner in each district.

- Awareness generation camps for rural women will be organised in every panchayat on quarterly basis as per their needs/problems faced by them in their respective areas. Legal literacy camps for women would be organised at panchayat level in coordination with District Legal Service Authority (DLSA) for imparting information on legal rights on women.
- Three girls from rural areas in each district pursuing professional courses in Government Institutions such as MBBS, B. Tech. MBA, MCA, BAMS etc. will be provided one time grant of Rs. 5000 every year till the completion of the course. In case of failure in any year , this assistance will not be given. The names of the girls will be recommended by the concerned district committee and the matrix will be devised by the directorate on the basis of various parameters which will be conveyed to the districts separately. Preference by the committee will be given to low income groups orphans/ children of single parents.
- Teachers would consistently observe the attitude and behaviour of the boys from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> standard towards girls and women. The boys from each class whose attitude and behaviour towards women/girls is found good would be awarded recognized by each school. Evaluation indicators would separately be conveyed to the districts.
- Different types of competition on women related issues like debate competition, painting, slogan writing, rangoli, declamation, essay writing and cultural activities would be

organized in every school annually and Participants would be awarded/ recognized.

- Lady police officers will also attend the panchayat level awareness camps and educate the girls and women on POCSO Act, sexual assault, procedure of filing FIR, domestic violence, legal rights etc.
- Lady Officers posted at district/block head quarters will visit at -lest 2-3 schools every month and will interact with the girls and encourage them for continuing their higher education, to take participate in sports activities, vocational courses/carrier counselling, self defence courses etc.
- In order to provide the better marketing facilities for SHGs for selling their products, District Level Shashkat Mahila Committee will explore the possibilities of hart /sell centre, space with the help of tourism dept, temple trust and rural dept. and creation of marketing platform through Industrial department.
- Yoga camps will be organised for the girls in girls colleges and ITIs with the help of Dept. Of Ayurveda.
- Special classes for counselling of girls would be organized through Peer Educators of Yuva Swasthya Paramashar Kendra constituted by the dept. Of health and family welfare.
- Incentive of Rs. 500 per month will be given to the ICDS Supervisor for monitoring the activities of the Sashakt Mahila Kendra.



## **Strategy:**

### **A. Adolescent Girls (11-18 years of age)**

- I. Sensitization of adolescent girls about menstrual cycle/hygiene
- II. Distribution of sanitary napkins to out of school adolescent girls to ensure personal hygiene through health department and also vending machines to be installed in a phased manner at Panchayat level or at Sashakt Mahila Kendras to be set up in a phased manner under this scheme.
- III. Promotion of vocational / professional courses by providing one time grant of Rs. 5,000/- every year to three topper girl from each district pursuing regular courses in Government Institutions within Himachal Pradesh such as MBBS, B.E/ B.Tech. MBA,BAMS & MCA, till the completion of course without the girl getting failed in any year.

### **B. Women in the age groups of 19-45 Years.**

In the first year of inception of this scheme, women between 19 to 45 years who have done some social work or women having knowledge about their local area /village or who are in some way connected to the issues relating to women and have knowledge about the same will be formed at Panchayat level under the supervision of a ICDS Supervisor. These women will inform the concerned supervisor about the issue on which which they require training/sensitization. The supervisor with the assistance of different departments like Health, Education, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Ayurveda, Technical Education, Industries, ESOMSA, Kaushal Vikas Nigam, MahilaVikas Nigam, IT etc. will organise the training required by the women of that area. These Kendras will be linked with the banks and other financial institutions so that they could open their bank

accounts, get financial assistance and start their own small scale businesses or some income generating activities.

## VI. Convergence Mechanism:

**Sashkt Mahila Yojna** will be implemented at District, Block/ Panchayat/ Village level in convergence with the department/organisations as:



**District Level Task Force:** District Level Task Force will be constituted under the Chairmanship of concerned DPO who will monitor the activities of whole district and will submit monthly report to Deputy Commissioner as well as to the Directorate of WCD. DC's would monitor the progress every month/ quarterly.

**Block Level Task Force:** Block Level Task Force will be constituted under the Chairmanship of concerned CDPO who will be responsible for monitoring of all the activities being carried out at the block level and monthly report will be submitted by him to concerned DPO.

**Panchyat/ Village level:**

Sashkt Mahila Kendra will be formed at Panchayat level which shall function as Common Service Centres (CSCs) at panchayat level. Services shall be provided at Gram Panchayat level through convergence with frontline workers such as Anganwadi Workers (AWW), Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs), Auxiliary Nurse **Midwife (ANMs), Women SHGs, Mahila Mandal, Elected Women** Representatives (EWRs), Protection Officers etc. Training and Capacity building programmes will be undertaken as part of SMY Scheme.

**District level Shashkat Mahila Committee:**

A District level Shashkat Mahila Committee comprising of following officers will be constituted for the purpose of (i) selection of potential SHGs to whom one time seed money is to be provided; (ii) for the selection of topper girls to whom one time grant is to be given for higher studies; (iii) to explore the possibilities of market facilities to SHGs for selling their products; (iv) monitoring and review of the functioning of Kendra and (v) other necessary steps/actions required for the proper implementation of these Kendra's.

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| • Deputy Commissioner                         | Chairperson |
| • Project Officer DRDA                        | Member      |
| • Chief Medical Officer                       | Member      |
| • District Panchayat Officer                  | Member      |
| • Dy. Director, Higher Education(Higher)      | Member      |
| • Dy. Director, Higher Education( Elementary) | Member      |
| • DM NABARD                                   | Member      |

- General Manager, DIC Member
- District Manager, MahilaVikas Nigam Member
- District Language Officer Member
- CDPO of District H.Qtr. Block Member
- District Programme Officer Member  
Secretary

### **VII. Implementing Agency/Department:**

Department of Women & Child Development Himachal Pradesh will be responsible at the state level for the implementation of this scheme. At district level DPO will be the Nodal Officer and at block level CDPO will function as Nodal Officer for convergence and implementation of Sashkt Mahila Yojna. However, inter departmental coordination at all levels is an essential component for the success of the scheme. Convergence of services with various schemes/ programmes of Departments of Health, Education, Labour & Employment, Tourism, Rural Development, Technical Education, and Police will be helpful in better implementation of the scheme.

### **VIII. Monitoring Mechanism**

The monitoring and supervision mechanism setup under the ICDS Scheme at the STATE, District, PROJECT and PANCHAYAT levels will be used for this Scheme as well. These Committees constituted at Project, District and State levels will monitor and supervise implementation of this scheme as well. The platform of the Gram Sabha will also be utilized for the dissemination and awareness generation about this scheme.

## **IX. Budget provision:**

S.No.	Name of the post	No.	Expenditure (Rs)	Annual Budget (Lakh)
1.	Awareness generation camps to be organised at panchayat level on quarterly basis @1000 per camp	3236	3236x4x1000	129.44
2.	Skill Training and Capacity Building of one SHG from each ICDS block in each month @10000	78	78x10000x12	93.60
3.	Incentive to Circle supervisors for facilitation work @ 500 p/m	757	757x500x12	45.42
4.	One time grant to 3 girls from rural area pursuing professional courses like MBBS, BAMS, LLB, BCA, MCA, MBA, Hotel Management, B Tech. etc. courses from govt. @5000 per annum for three to four years.	12	3x12x5000x4	7.20
5.	One time seed money to progressive SHGs one from each ICDS block @ 50,000 per block	78	78x50000	39.00
6.	Contingency/recurring expenses @ 20000 per block per district/per district	90	90x20000	18.00
7.	Meeting/workshop/orientation/monitoring/misc. expenses	20000	12X12X20000	28.80
8.	Flexi Fund @ 2%			8.55
	<b>Total</b>			370.01

**(RsThree CoreSeventy lakh twenty one thousand only)**

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Himachal Pradesh**