

GB-15/1/2019-Gender Budgeting
Government of India
Ministry of Women & Child Development
(Gender Budgeting Division)

1st Floor, Jeevan Tara Building,
Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110 001

Dated: 28th November 2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Record of Discussions of the meeting with select Ministries/ Departments to review and discuss steps to strengthen reporting in the Gender Budget Statement in FY 2026-27 held on 13th November 2025 - Regarding

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith Record of Discussions of the meeting held on **13th November 2025 at 4.30 PM** (*Venue*: Conference Hall, 6th Floor, A Wing, Shastri Bhawan) for necessary information and action.

2. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.



(Dr. Saroj Kr. Adhikari)
Assistant Director (GB)
Email: sk.adhikari@nic.in
M-99684 37584

Encl. As above.

To
Secretaries (20 Ministries/Departments) - As per the list

Copy for information to:

1. PSO to Secretary, MWCD
2. PSO to Statistical Advisor, MWCD

List of Ministries/Departments

1. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying
2. Department of Biotechnology
3. Ministry of Cooperation
4. Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation
5. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
6. Department of Fertilisers
7. Department of Financial Services
8. Department of Fisheries
9. Department of Food and Public Distribution
10. Ministry of Food Processing Industries
11. Department of Justice
12. Department of Land Resources
13. NITI Aayog
14. Ministry of Panchayati Raj
15. Department of Pharmaceuticals
16. Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
17. Ministry of Railways
18. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
19. Department of Telecommunications
20. Department of Water Resources, RD & GR

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Record of Discussions of the meeting with select Ministries/Departments to review and discuss steps to strengthen reporting in the Gender Budget Statement in FY 2026-27 held on 13th November 2025

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The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) convened a consultative meeting with select Ministries/Departments on 13th November 2025 at 4.30 PM (*Venue*: Conference Hall, 6th Floor, A Wing, Shastri Bhawan) to review and discuss steps to strengthen reporting in the Gender Budget Statement (GBS) in the Union Budget of FY 2026-27. The meeting was attended by Senior Officers from 20 Ministries/Departments. Due to official exigencies, Secretary (WCD) could not chair the meeting. List of participants is placed at *Annex-1*.

2. Dr. Pankaj Srivastava, Statistical Advisor, MWCD welcomed the Officers from the Ministries/Departments and outlined the purpose of the meeting. He informed that Gender Budgeting is an important tool to highlight the outlays under various schemes that have a direct or indirect impact on women and girls. Gender Budgeting helps in reprioritizing the expenditure and ensuring adequate allocations to address the gender gaps under the schemes. He emphasized the importance of reporting and filing allocations in the Gender Budget Statement (Statement 13) within the stipulated timeline through Union Budget Information System (UBIS), as per the instructions in the Budget Circular 2026-27 issued by the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) on 28th August 2025.

3. SA (WCD) highlighted that the MWCD as Nodal Ministry for coordination on gender budgeting, has been undertaking capacity building initiatives for the officers of the Ministries/Departments with the aim to enhance understanding of gender components in schemes/programmes, and to help in reporting allocations in the GBS. During 6-7 Nov 2025, the MWCD in collaboration with UN Women organized a capacity building programme on gender budgeting wherein hand-holding support was provided to the Officers to prepare their respective Ministry/Department's GBS for FY 2026-27. The training programme was attended by 37 Officers at the level Director/Dy. Secretary/Jt. Director/Under Secretary etc. from 20 Ministries/Departments.

4. It was informed that during FY 2025-26, a total of 49 Ministries/Departments and 5 UTs reported an allocation of Rs. 4.49 lakh crore in the GBS which is an increase of 37.25% over the allocation of Rs. 3.27 lakh crore in FY 2024-25. The share of Gender Budget in the total Union Budget has increased to 8.86% in 2025-26 from 6.8% in FY 2024-25. However, there seems to be larger potential to enhance reporting of allocations for women in the next year's GBS. In this direction, a D.O. letter from Secretary (WCD) was sent to the Ministries/Departments on 14th August 2025 with the

request to undertake a close review of the schemes from a gender lens and report/enhance allocations in the GBS for FY 2026-27.

5. It was emphasised that the Ministries/Departments may adopt pragmatic and realistic methodologies for identifying gender components in their respective schemes, particularly in cases where direct beneficiary data is not readily available. Even if allocations for women are not earmarked in a specific scheme, an estimate of women beneficiaries, either based on gender-disaggregated data or other mechanisms such as population census data, can be made, and allocations can accordingly be apportioned for reporting in the GBS for FY 2026-27. This will help reflect the Government of India's overall allocations for the welfare of women, which currently appear to be under-reported.

6. It was informed that the MWCD has identified following 10 Ministries/Department who have potential to report in the GBS for FY 2026-27. The MWCD has been engaged with these Ministries/Departments since last two years with gender analysis of select schemes/programmes.

- (i) M/o Cooperation
- (ii) M/o Development of North Eastern Region
- (iii) M/o Environment, Forests and Climate Change
- (iv) D/o Fertilizers
- (v) M/o Heavy Industries
- (vi) D/o Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice
- (vii) NITI Aayog
- (viii) D/o Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- (ix) M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation
- (x) D/o Telecommunications

7. Representatives of the participating Ministries/Departments were requested to take necessary actions to ensure reporting of allocations in the GBS for FY 2026-27, in close coordination with the Budget & Finance Divisions of the respective Ministries/Departments. Gender Budgeting Division, MWCD will provide hand-holding support during preparation of the GBS for FY 2026-27, as and when required.

8. A PowerPoint presentation was made by the MWCD highlighting Ministry/Department-wise major schemes that have the potential for reporting or enhancing allocations in the GBS for FY 2026-27. Following this, deliberations were held with the Representatives of the participating Ministries/Departments. During the discussions, it was emphasized by the participants that in order to strengthen the gender budgeting process, the Ministries/Departments may incorporate women-centric features in the scheme design at the formulation stage itself, such as mandating a measurable share of benefits for women or earmarking a specific percentage of allocation for women. Including such provisions in the scheme design would make it easier to identify women beneficiaries, promote more accurate reporting in the GBS, and also enable better monitoring of results.

9. Summary of the Ministry/Department-wise discussions is as under:-
- (i) **Department of Justice, Ministry and Law:** Three schemes viz.(a) Fast Track Special Courts, (b) e-Courts- III; and (c) Designing Innovation Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice in India-DISHA were identified under the Department which have potential to report allocations the GBS 2026-27. Representative of the Department conveyed that Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) using Nirbhaya Fund can be reported in Part A of GBS for FY 2026-27 as it is a scheme designed with 100% focus on women. In respect of two other schemes, the Department will explore collecting gender data for possible reporting of allocations in the GBS.
 - (ii) **NITI Aayog:** During the 2-day Capacity Building Programme on Gender Budgeting held on 6-7 November 2025, participant from NITI Aayog highlighted that budgets can be apportioned under Atal Tinkering Labs (where allocations are made the girls schools) and Atal Incubation Centre (where 30% women-led or co-led startups are supported) towards GBS 2026-27. Representative from NITI Aayog acknowledged the feasibility of reporting gender budget allocations in the GBS 2026-27 *w.r.t.* Atal Innovation Mission.
 - (iii) **Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation:** Representative of the Ministry informed that under MPLADS and Capacity Development Schemes, it is difficult to estimate women beneficiaries, due to which the Ministry would not be able to report allocations in the GBS for FY 2026-27. The Ministry was advised that a formal communication may be sent to Secretary (WCD) citing the limitations in the existing schemes, for future reference.
 - (iv) **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:** Representative of the Ministry informed that their schemes are universal in nature and involve multiple stakeholders, making the consolidation of beneficiary-level data challenging for gender budget allocation. However, the Ministry will explore methodologies to estimate the number of women beneficiaries under its schemes and will endeavour to report allocations in the GBS for FY 2026-27.
 - (v) **Department of Fertilisers:** Representative of the Department explained that fertiliser subsidies under the Urea Subsidy and Nutrient Based Subsidy schemes are paid to the fertiliser companies, not individual farmers, making it difficult to attribute benefits to specific gender groups. Fertiliser distribution through biometric authentication further complicates identification of individual beneficiaries. It was highlighted that during the 2-day Capacity Building Programme on Gender Budgeting held on 6-7 November 2025, an alternative approach of using share of landholdings by women was suggested to make an estimate of women farmers under the subsidy schemes, though it may underestimate the actual benefit. The Department agreed to explore feasible

methods for estimating women beneficiaries for GBS reporting in FY 2026-27, while noting the existing concern that only about 14% of beneficiaries are women.

- (vi) **Ministry of Cooperation:** Representative of the Ministry informed that under the scheme Grant-in-Aid for the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), data on loans sanctioned to women-led cooperatives is available with NCDC. Since July 2025, Rs. 10.00 crore has been sanctioned to women-led cooperatives. The Ministry confirmed that corresponding allocations will be reported in the GBS for FY 2026-27.
- (vii) **Department of Telecommunications:** Representative of the Department that telecom services, being non-tangible infrastructure-based provisions, are not delivered directly to specific demographic groups. Beneficiary-level data to substantiate gender-specific allocations is not maintained. Hence, gender budget allocation for its schemes is not feasible. The Department has already communicated this position to MWCD vide letter dated 07.11.2025.
- (viii) **Department of Financial Services:** Representative of the Department confirmed that the two schemes a) Government Co-contribution to Atal Pension Yojana; and b) Interest Subsidy to LIC for Pension Plan for Senior Citizens will continue reporting in the GBS for FY 2026-27. He informed that “*Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana*” (PMVVY), may also be reported in Part B of the GBS for FY 2026-27.
- (ix) **Department of Biotechnology:** Representative of the Department confirmed that the single scheme of Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development (Bio-RIDE) will continue reporting in the GBS for FY 2026-27. The Department was advised that the scheme component may be reported in Part A of the GBS as the fund is for Women Scientists only.
- (x) **Ministry of Railways:** Representative of the Ministry confirmed that the Ministry will continue reporting in the GBS for FY 2026-27, with the possibility of enhanced allocations in respect of ‘Customer Amenities’.
- (xi) **Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation:** Representative of the Department confirmed that the Department will continue reporting its schemes in the GBS for FY 2026-27, with increased allocations for the component ‘Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP)’ under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana but reduced allocations under the ‘Command Area Development and Water Management’ component. They also shared their experience of indirect estimation of women beneficiaries and accordingly apportioning allocations for reporting in GBS 2025-26.
- (xii) **Ministry of Food Processing Industries:** Representative of the confirmed that the Ministry will continue reporting its scheme with increased allocations in the GBS for FY 2026-27. They also cited that the allocations reported under Pradhan

Mantri Formalization of Micro Enterprises (PMFME) in the GBS are based on data being captured in the online portal of the scheme.

- (xiii) **Department of Food and Public Distribution:** It was noted that the Department reported an amount of Rs. 1.08 lakh crore in the GBS 2025-26 under the flagship scheme of *Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY)*, which has significantly contributed to increase the overall GBS allocation. Representative of the Department informed that as per the scheme MIS, approximately 50% of beneficiaries are women & girls, and accordingly, 53% of the total budget has been reported in the GBS. She conveyed that the Department will continue reporting in the GBS for FY 2026-27.
- (xiv) **Department of Land Resources:** Representative of the Department confirmed that the Department will continue reporting its schemes in the GBS for FY 2026-27.
- (xv) **Ministry of Panchayati Raj:** Representative of the Ministry informed that a Gender Budget Cell has recently been re-constituted. He further conveyed that Ministry will explore scope for enhancing GBS allocations in FY 2026-27.
- (xvi) **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways:** Representative of the Ministry informed that the Ministry will continue reporting in the GBS for FY 2026-27 in respect of the scheme of Indian Maritime University. He also conveyed that there is scope for enhanced allocations for the forthcoming year.
- (xvii) **Department of Pharmaceuticals:** Representative of the Department confirmed that they will continue reporting in the GBS for FY 2026-27. She further stated that components of the *Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)* may also be included in the GBS for FY 2026-27, subject to budgetary approvals.
- (xviii) **Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation:** Representative of the Department informed that they will continue reporting allocations in the GBS for FY 2026-27 in respect of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin). However, allocations under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) may reduce due to anticipated budgetary adjustments in the next financial year.
- (xix) **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying:** It was noted that the Department has reported an amount of Rs. 540.00 crore in GBS 2025-26 with an average 30% of the allocation in respect of two schemes viz. Dairy Development and National Livestock Mission. Representative of the Department informed that indicated that they would adhere to the currently reported allocations, which are based on estimations.
- (xx) **Department of Fisheries:** Representative of the Department informed that under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) is an umbrella scheme with two separate components namely Central Sector Scheme (CS) and Centrally Sponsored

Scheme (CSS). The Centrally Sponsored Scheme component has both non-beneficiary oriented and beneficiary orientated sub-components/activities. Under this component, nearly 60% of infrastructure projects indirectly benefit women. However, the figures reported in the GBS 2025-26 are financial estimates. He conveyed that the scheme will continue to be reported in the GBS 2026-27.

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Annex-1: List of Participants

S. No.	Name of Ministry/ Department	S. No.	Name & Designation
1.	Ministry of Women & Child Development	1.	Dr. Pankaj Srivastava, Statistical Advisor
		2.	Dr. Saroj Kr. Adhikari, Assistant Director
		3.	Dr. Anshul Sharma, Technical Coordinator UN Women
		4.	Ms Shreya, Technical Coordinator, UN Women
		5.	Ms Diksha Joshi, Young Professional
2.	Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying	6.	Ms. Swarnali Banerjee, Deputy Secretary
		7.	Shri Sagar Gupta, Section Officer
3.	Department of Biotechnology	8.	Shri Sankarshan Sahoo, Statistical Advisor
4.	Ministry of Cooperation	9.	Shri Manish Sharma, Assistant Registrar
5.	Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation	10.	Shri Ananjay Tiwary, Deputy Secretary
		11.	Shri Avinash Sinha, Under Secretary
6.	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	12.	Dr. Veer Dnyaneshwar, Controller of Accounts
7.	Department of Fertilisers	13.	Shri Anil Phulwari, Director
		14.	Shri Pradeep Kr. Singh, Under Secretary (IFD)
8.	Department of Financial Services	15.	Shri C. K. Jha, Dy. Director General
		16.	Shri Pramod Singh, OSD
9.	Department of Fisheries	17.	Shri V. Srinivasa Rao, Director
10.	Department of Food and Public Distribution	18.	Dr. Pragyasmita Sahoo, Director
		19.	Ms. Jyoti, Assistant Section Officer
11.	Ministry of Food Processing Industries	20.	Shri Surendra Singh, Joint Industrial Advisor
12.	Department of Justice	21.	Shri Satya Pratap Singh, Joint Secretary
13.	Department of Land Resources	22.	Shri Paresh Malakar, Deputy Secretary
		23.	Shri Ravi Garg, Under Secretary (PME)
14.	NITI Aayog	24.	Dr. Krishn Kant Sharma, Senior Associate
15.	Ministry of Panchayati Raj	25.	Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary
16.	Department of Pharmaceuticals	26.	Ms. Gunjan Verma, Joint Director
17.	Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways	27.	Shri Sujeet Kumar, Under Secretary
18.	Ministry of Railways	28.	Shri Santosh Kumar Mahto, Dy. Director
19.	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	29.	Dr. Ashutosh Ojha, Dy. Director General
		30.	Ms. Lalitha Mohanan, Section Officer
20.	Department of Telecommunications	31.	Shri Ranvijay Kumar Singh, Director
21.	Department of Water Resources, RD, GR	32.	Shri Shreyas Gune, Deputy Commissioner
		33.	Shri Mohit Verma, Joint Director