

## **Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme**

1. Government of India has approved a new scheme namely, Mahila Shakti Kendra for implementation during 2017-18 upto 2019-20 to empower rural women through community participation and to create an environment in which they realize their full potential. It will provide an interface for rural women to approach the government for availing their entitlements also empowering them through training and capacity building.
  2. Community engagement through College Student Volunteers is envisioned in 115 most backward districts as part of the MSK Block level initiatives. Student volunteers will play an instrumental role in awareness generation regarding various important government schemes/ programmes as well as social issue and association with NSS/NCC cadre students will also be an option. The scheme at the block level will provide an opportunity to Student Volunteers to participate in the development process by bringing change in their own communities and ensuring that women are not left behind and are equal partners in India's progress.
  3. In the first year (2017-18), Mahila Shakti Kendras(MSK) will be set up in 50 backward districts out of 115 backward districts covering 400 blocks in 50 most backward districts (maximum 8 blocks per district) are to be covered under block level initiative.
  4. In the second year (2018-19), remaining 65 districts will be taken up along with the 50 districts from previous year. In the third year, activities will be taken up in all 115 backward districts covering 920 blocks (i.e. 8 blocks per district) for six months. At the end of second year, the scheme will be evaluated to decide expansion/continuation of the scheme.
  5. New District Level Centre for Women (DLCW) has also been envisaged for 640 districts to be covered in phased manner. These centres will serve as a link between village, block and state level in facilitating women centric schemes and also give foothold for BBBP scheme at the district level. During the current FY (2017-18), 220 DLCWs will be set-up which will be manned by 03 staff in each selected district under the guidance of DC/DM.
- Please see the list of districts to be taken up during FY 2017-18.

6. At the state level technical support on issues related to women is being provided through State Resource Centre for Women (SRCW) functional under the respective State Government /UT Administration. SRCWs are meant to facilitate implementation of all women centric schemes and programmes of the government, including the district and block level component of MSK Scheme. For details, [please see MSK Scheme Guidelines.](#)