

## Annexure

Steps taken and major welfare works being done by the Department to improve the lives of transgender persons and the results thereof are as under:

- i. “The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019” has been enacted. The Act provides a clear definition of Transgender persons and recognizes a person's right to self-perceived gender identity. It mandated the formulation of welfare schemes and programmes that are transgender sensitive and non-stigmatizing, ensuring their dignified and respectable place in the society, along with provisions for non-discrimination in educational institutions and employment, providing healthcare services and several welfare measures. The Department has enacted “The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights), Rules, 2020” for implementation of the provisions of the Act.
- ii. A National Council for Transgender Persons was set up to advise the Central Government on the formulation of policies and legislation with respect to Transgender persons, monitor and evaluate the impact of policies designed for achieving equality and full participation, review and coordinate the activities of all the Departments of the Government and non-Governmental organisations.
- iii. A scheme, Support for Marginalized Individual for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) with sub-component “Central sector scheme for comprehensive rehabilitation for welfare of transgender persons” is being implemented. This scheme has various components for welfare of transgender persons namely Skill Development and Livelihood, Composite Medical Health, Safe shelters in the form of Garima Grehs, National Portal for Transgender persons through which Transgender certificates are issued, Provision of Transgender Protection Cell and other welfare measures.
- iv. MoU with National Health Authority (NHA) for convergence with Ayushman Bharat scheme of NHA has been done for providing health facilities under PMJAY scheme to Transgender persons.
- v. Department has set up 18 Garima Grehs, shelter homes for destitute transgender persons in 15 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal (2) and Maharashtra (3).
- vi. National Portal for Transgender Persons has been launched to issue Transgender certificates and ID cards to eligible Transgender persons. This is an end-to-end online process where the applicant can apply for the TG certificate and also download the certificate after issue without any requirement to go to any office of issue. This portal has more than 62 Lakh visitors and as of now, 24,015 certificates have been issued.
- vii. So far, 12 Transgender Protection Cells are setup by States/UTs of Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh, Andaman & Nicobar, Sikkim, Punjab, Mizoram, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh.
- viii. As of now 19 Transgender Welfare Boards (TWB) have been setup by States/UTs of Rajasthan, Mizoram, Chandigarh, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry, Maharashtra, Kerala, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Jammu and Kashmir and Andaman & Nicobar.
- ix. Department has issued “Equal Opportunities Policy for Transgender Persons” to ensure that the Transgender community has equal access to employment opportunities etc.
- x. Skill development training to transgender persons is being provided through various Sectoral Skill Councils etc. and training provided to 725 members till now.
- xi. Timely advisories have been issued to all Union Ministries and States/UTs for designating Grievance Redressal Officer, for non-discrimination of transgender persons and providing option of “Transgender” along with options of male and female wherever any gender related information is collected. On request of this Department, Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) has included dedicated toilets for transgender persons in their policy guidelines.
- xii. Department through its autonomous body National Institute of Social Defence (NISD) conducts for regular awareness generation and sensitization sessions for Transgender Persons and other stakeholders.

