



## One Stop Centre Scheme

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One stop centre is a **centrally sponsored scheme** of **Ministry of Women and Child Development** (MWCD), for addressing the problem of **violence against women**.

- It is a subscheme of umbrella scheme for National Mission for Empowerment of Women including Indira Gandhi Matritav Sahyaog Yojana.
- One stop centre, will be established across the country to provide **integrated support and assistance** under one roof to women affected by violence, both in **private** and **public spaces**.
- **Funding:** The scheme is funded through **Nirbhaya Fund** and the central government provides **100% financial assistance** to the state governments /Union Territories administrations.
- **Auditing:** Audit will be done as per **Comptroller & Auditor General of India** norms and **social audit** will also be undertaken by civil society groups.
- **Services:** One stop centres will be integrated with women helplines to provide following services:
  - Emergency response and rescue services.
  - Medical assistance.
  - Assistance to women in lodging the FIR.
  - Psycho- social support and counselling.
  - Legal aid and counselling.
  - Shelter
  - Video conferencing facility.

## Background

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- **'Nirbhaya Fund'** was established for women safety pertaining to the strategic areas of prevention, protection and rehabilitation.
- The **12<sup>th</sup> Plan Working Group** on Women's Agency and Empowerment had recommended setting up of one stop crisis centres.
- **Usha Mehra Commission**, had recommended for the establishment of a "one-stop

centre” to help victims of sexual assault and ensure speedy punishment to culprits.

## Nirbhaya Fund

- The Nirbhaya Fund Framework provides for a non-lapsable corpus fund for safety and security of women.
- It is administered by the **Department of Economic Affairs** (DEA) of the Ministry of Finance (MoF) of the Government of India.
- It can be utilized for projects and initiatives related to women safety.

## Need

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- **Gender Based Violence** (GBV) is a global health, human rights and development issue that transcends geography, class, culture, age, race and religion to affect every community and country in every corner of the world.
- In India, gender based violence has many manifestations:
  - Like **domestic** and **sexual violence** including rape.
  - **Harmful practices** such as, dowry, honour killings, acid attacks, witch-hunting, sexual harassment, child sexual abuse, trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation, child marriage, sex selective abortion, sati etc.
- India is also grappling with **violence due to inequities** in social life more particularly in times of displacement and communal incidents.