



Ministry of Women and Child Development
Government of India

Subject: Guidelines for Proposals from Central Government Ministries/Departments, States/UTs to be funded under the Nirbhaya Fund

Read:-

1. O.M. No. 15(26)-B(D)/2013 – DEA, Ministry of Finance dated 25th March, 2015
2. O.M. No.15(26)/B(D)/2013- Part II– DEA, Ministry of Finance dated 26th October, 2015
3. O.M. No. 24(35)/PF-II/2012– DoE (PF-II Div.), Ministry of Finance dated 29th August, 2014
4. O.M. No. 15(26)/B(D)/2013 – DEA, Ministry of Finance dated 6th January, 2016

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Women safety issues cut across sectors and can range from domestic to public sphere as well as the workplace. Violence in public spaces is an everyday occurrence for women and girls around the world, both in urban and rural areas. Women and girls experience various types of violence in public spaces from harassment to assault including stalking, molestation, rape etc. Women face violence on streets, public transport and parks, in and around schools and workplaces, in public sanitation facilities and water and food distribution sites, or in their own neighbourhoods. This reality reduces women's and girls' freedom of movement. It reduces their ability to participate in school, work and in public life. It limits their access to essential services, and enjoyment of cultural and recreational opportunities. It also negatively impacts their health and well-being. Violence against women and girls in public spaces impedes women empowerment by restricting their mobility and is therefore recognized as women rights violation.

1.2 In view of the above, Government has set up Nirbhaya Fund .The Nirbhaya Fund is being administered by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance . The Nirbhaya Fund can be utilized for projects for women safety and security. In O.M. No.1 cited above, Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal authority for appraising/recommending the proposals/schemes to be funded under Nirbhaya fund.

1.3 Central Government Ministries/Departments and State Governments/UT Administrations may formulate proposals factoring in women safety issues in their sector within the public sphere for seeking funding under Nirbhaya Fund.

The concerned State Government/Department will formulate a proposal for women security and safety with regard to their specific sector (for example - road transport, police, power etc.) and submit the same to concerned Central Government Ministry/Department with an advance copy to the Secretary (also Chairperson of Empowered Committee), Ministry of Women and Child Development, Room No. 601, A Wing, Shastri Bhawan, Dr.Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-110001.

1.4 Proposals of UT Administrations will be routed through the Ministry of Home Affairs.

2. MODALITIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHEME

2.1 **Composition of Empowered Committee of Officers:** In O.M. No.2 cited in the beginning, an Empowered Committee of Officers was constituted for appraising/recommending the various schemes/projects by the Ministries/Departments/State Governments to be funded from the Nirbhaya Fund.

The composition of the Empowered Committee is as under:

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| (i) Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development | : Chairman |
| (ii) Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs | : Member |
| (iii) Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways | : Member |
| (iv) Chairman, Railway Board | : Member |

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| (v) | Secretary, Department of Electronic & IT | : Member |
| (vi) | Joint Secretary, DEA | : Member |
| (vii) | Secretary of the Project Sponsoring Department | : Member |
| (viii) | Secretary of the concerned State Government Department | : Member |
| (ix) | Secretary, State Deptt. of Women & Child Development | : Member |
| (x) | Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development | : Convener |
- (For State proposals, the members from Sl. No. (vii) to (ix) are to be co-opted as per the requirement of the project).**

3. Formulation of Proposals:

- 3.1 Central Government Ministries/Departments may formulate proposals factoring in women safety issues in their sector within the public sphere and send to the Ministry of Women and Child Development for appraisal and recommendation of the projects/schemes to be funded under Nirbhaya fund.
- 3.2 At the State/UT level, the concerned State Government Department will formulate a proposal for women security and safety with regard to their specific sector (for example - road transport, police, power etc.) and submit the same to concerned Central Government Ministry/Department with an advance copy to the Secretary (also the Chairperson, Empowered Committee) Ministry of Women and Child Development for appraisal and recommendation of the proposal.
- 3.3 Ministries/Departments of the Central Government will send the proposal with their recommendations/comments to the Empowered Committee within a week of receipt of such proposals from the concerned State Governments/Departments.
- 3.4 The Empowered Committee will take decision on the recommendation of schemes/projects from Nirbhaya Fund within 15 days from the date of receipt of the proposal.
- 3.5 After recommendation by the Empowered Committee, the concerned Ministry/Department will place the proposal before the Competent Authority for

approval with respect to the following financial limits (in the O.M. No.3&4 cited in the beginning):

- (i) Projects upto 100 crore - Secretary, Concerned Ministry
- (ii) Projects upto 100 to 500 crore - Minister in charge of the Concerned Ministry.
- (iii) Projects upto 500 to 1000 crore - Minister in charge of the Concerned Ministry/Department and Finance Ministry
- (iv) Above 1000 crore-Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).

3.6 After obtaining the necessary approvals, subject to availability of funds, the Ministry of Women and Child Development could release the funds to the State Government or the concerned Ministry/Department shall take up the proposal with Budget Division, Ministry of Finance for necessary budgetary allocations from Nirbhaya Fund.

4. FUNDING PATTERN

- 4.1 The cost of projects/schemes of the State Government will be shared in the ratio of 60:40 (as per guidelines of Ministry of Finance) under Nirbhaya fund.
- 4.2 The funds for the projects/schemes shall be released following the procedures prescribed in GFR 2005.

5. MONITORING & EVALUATION

5.1 Administration, monitoring and reporting mechanism of the projects/schemes will be laid down by the Sponsoring Central Government Ministry/ Department. It is proposed that the monitoring and reporting mechanism to be followed at the State Government/U.T. level and at the level of the nodal (sponsoring) Central Government Ministry/Department should form a part of the proposal being forwarded to the Empowered Committee and should be considered by the committee while appraising the proposal.
