

(i) Gender Mainstreaming Strategies

In line with the National Gender Policy Framework of 2008, which calls upon all Ministries to engender their respective policies, the Government of the Republic of Mauritius introduced the Gender Responsive Budgeting Initiative in the fiscal year 2016/2017 on a pilot basis. An amount of (Rs 200, 000) was allocated to 5 Ministries. These are as follows:

- The Ministry of Youth and Sports organized a **Training of Trainers in Life Saving Skills (Self-Defense and Swimming) on 24 April 2017** for a group of **20 women** aimed at creating a pool of trainers who would be tasked to train other women. .
- The Ministry of Health and Quality of Life organized an **Open Day on Feminisation of Cancer on 04 May 2017** to raise awareness on preventive measures amongst the women-folk.
- The Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development (Environment and Sustainable Development Division) trained a group of female prisoners for the production of Eco-Friendly folders that would, thereafter, be sold amongst Government's institutions.
- The Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research conducted a course on Essential Housekeeping targeting some **23 girls** with hearing disabilities from "Ecole des Sourds" to provide skills to the girls for their employability.
- The Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms is undertaking a study on **Gender Issues impacting the whole Civil Service** to identify gender gaps that impede on women's empowerment.

The pilot projects has been a success. For budget 2017-2018, a sum of Rs 200, 000 has been allocated to each Ministry for the implementation of new programmes to enhance women's empowerment.