

## The Second Edition of SheLeads Workshop

The second edition of the SheLeads workshop was inaugurated in New Delhi on August, 2025, as a capacity-building program for aspiring women leaders in India. Organized by UN Women India, the event was inaugurated by the Union Minister for Women and Child Development, Annpurna Devi.

### Key details about the event include

- **Inauguration by Union Minister:** Smt. Annpurna Devi, Union Minister for Women and Child Development, inaugurated the two-day workshop. In her address, she emphasized that women's leadership is critical for achieving a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India), stating, "It is central to achieving women-led development".
- **Context of the Women's Reservation Act:** The workshop is particularly relevant following the Women's Reservation Act, 2023, which reserves 33% of seats for women in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. The program aims to bridge the gap in representation, as women currently hold a smaller percentage of seats.
- **Participants:** For the second edition, 36 women leaders from 22 states were selected from a pool of over 260 applicants. The participants included grassroots women leaders, elected representatives, and administrators.
- **Workshop focus:** The two-day session covered vital topics such as electoral strategies, governance, public speaking, and media engagement. It featured interactive sessions with policy experts and members of parliament.
- **Support for upcoming elections:** A key objective of the SheLeads program is to equip and prepare women to contest the upcoming Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections.
- **Third cohort announced:** Following the second edition, UN Women India announced the call for applications for its third SheLeads cohort, with a deadline of October 20, 2025.

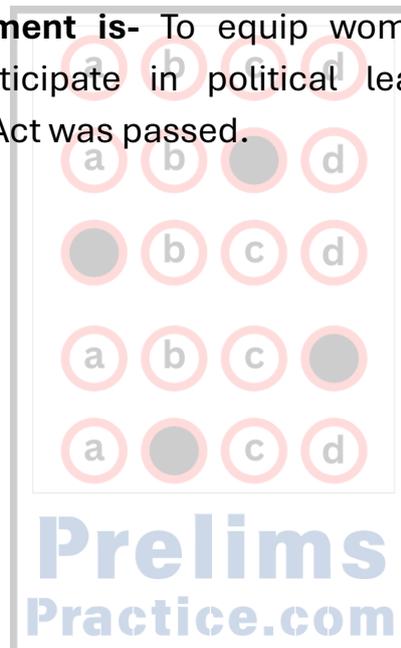
## Practice Questions:

1. Which of the following best describes the significance of the SheLeads initiative, particularly in the context of the Women's Reservation Act, 2023?

- a) To ensure that all women in India are trained for political office
- b) To equip women with leadership skills and networks to effectively participate in political leadership, addressing the low representation even after the Act was passed
- c) To replace traditional political training methods with modern, workshop-based approaches
- d) To provide financial aid to women contesting elections

**Answer: b**

**Explanation: Correct statement is-** To equip women with leadership skills and networks to effectively participate in political leadership, addressing the low representation even after the Act was passed.

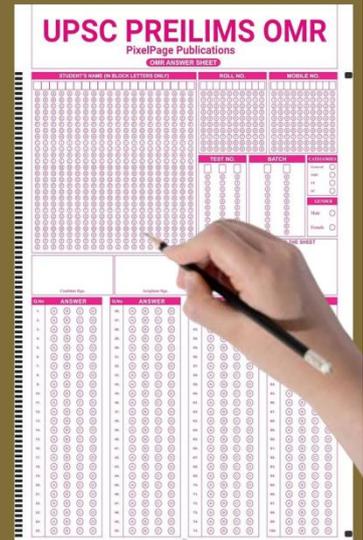


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