

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3753
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2002
ORPHANAGES FOR CHILDREN
HEMA GAMANG

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes for bringing children being brought up in orphanages rendered helpless because of natural calamities such as floods, earthquake and devastating cyclone and communal riots etc. in mainstream of society being implemented by the Government;
- (b) the number of such children being brought up in orphanages in the country especially in Orissa, Rajasthan and Jharkhand;
- (c) whether these children are provided employment on becoming adult on priority basis;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the steps being taken for their rehabilitation and bringing them in mainstream of the society?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is implementing various schemes for destitute children including children being brought up in orphanages rendered helpless because of natural calamities such as floods, earthquake and devastating cyclone and communal riots etc; for their rehabilitation and bringing them into the mainstream of society

The Ministry is implementing a scheme called `Scheme of Assistance to Homes Shishu Grehs) for Children to Promote In-Country Adoption` under which funds are provided to Non- Governmental Organizations for establishment of Homes (Shishu Grehs) for care and protection of children in the age group of 0-6 years who are either abandoned or orphaned and for their ultimate rehabilitation through in-country adoptions. The Ministry is also implementing two other Schemes, namely, `An Integrated Programme for Street Children` and `General Grant-in-aid Programme for Assistance in the Field of Social Defence`.

(b) The Ministry does not keep data base on the number of orphaned children in the country because orphanages are registered and recognized by the State Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Juvenile Justice [Care and Protection of Children] Act 2000, being administered by this Ministry, focuses on rehabilitation and social reintegration of all children in need of care and protection. Under the Ministry's scheme, framed for implementation of the said Act, namely, `A Programme for Juvenile Justice` grants are given to State Governments to the extent of 50% of total cost for establishment and running of various types of Homes, envisaged under the said Act. The orphaned and destitute children are rehabilitated and brought in the mainstream of society through various measures such as adoption/sponsorship/foster care/education/vocational training etc. for which funds are made available by this Ministry to State Governments and Non-Governmental Organisations under above mentioned Schemes of this Ministry.