GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:552 ANSWERED ON:23.05.2006 WELFARE OF STREET CHILDREN Rana Shri Kashi Ram;Thummar Shri Virjibhai

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps for imparting proper education and for the welfare of street children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the achievements made in this regard during each of the last three years; and
- (d) the steps being taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a),(b),(c)&(d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a),(b),(c)&(d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 552 FOR 23.5.2006 BY SHRI V.K. THUMMAR AND SHIR KASHIRAM RANA REGARDING WELFARE OF STREET CHILDREN

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a scheme "An Integrated Programme for Street Children" for providing non-institutional support necessary for the wholesome development of street children and their withdrawal from a life on the street and placement into national mainstream. Under the scheme, the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) providing facilities like shelter, nutrition, health care, recreation as well as education (formal or non-formal), training in meaningful vocations, trades and skills are financially supported by the Ministry. Besides, the NGOs implementing Childline service for providing emergency relief to children in distress including street children are also assisted under the scheme. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) implemented by the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy under the Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative and Innovation Education (EGS & AIE) component, also provides for flexible strategies like bridge courses, drop in centres, residential camps etc. for out of school children including street children.

(c)&(d) The number of NGOs and projects supported along with the number of street children covered during last three years under the scheme "An Integrated Programme for Street Children" is given as under:

Year Number of NGOs Number of Number of Street Projects Children covered

2003-04 190 212 43556 2004-05 199 218 44934 2005-06 192 212 43088