

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1103
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2007
BALAWADIS IN THE COUNTRY
Rajendran Shri P.

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

- (a) the number of balawadis existing in the country and the number of children benefited from them;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up more balawadis in the country especially in kerala during the current year; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a) The Scheme of balwadis has been closed. A new scheme, namely, Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers has been launched with effect from 1.1.2006. The details are available on the website [<http://wcd.nic.in/>] of the Ministry of Women and Child Development. 30902 creches have been set up till 31.3.2007 all over the country benefiting about 7.72 lakh children.

(b)&(c) It is proposed to set up more crèches in the country including Kerala during the current year.