

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1506
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2004
ADOPTION PROCEDURE
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

e;

- (a) whether the Government is aware that adoption procedure is cumbersome and needs simplification;
- (b) whether the Muslims, Christians and Parsis cannot 'legally' adopt a child in the country;
- (c) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (d) the steps proposed for enacting legal standing and rights as 'legal parents' on adoption for non-Hindus and also to simplify the adoption procedure to encourage it?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

- (a) The details procedure for adoption has been laid down in the Guidelines for In-country Adoption, 2004 [for domestic adoptions] and in the Revised Guidelines of Adoption of Indian Children, 1995, for inter-country adoptions. These guidelines are aimed at streamlining the procedure for adoption and bringing uniformity across the country.
- (b),(c) &(d) The personal laws of Muslims, Christians and Parsis do not specifically cover aspects relating to adoption. However, under Section 41 of the Juvenile Justice [Care and Protection of Children] Act, 2000, an orphaned, abandoned, neglected or abused child can be adopted by an eligible parent as per the procedure laid down in this regard.