

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:407

ANSWERED ON:23.04.2010

DESTITUTE /NEGLECTED CHILDREN

Hansrajbhai Shri Radadiya Vitthalbhai ;Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad

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

- (a) : the details of destitute/neglected children in the country;
- (b) : the details of the schemes/programmes in existence for protection/education of the destitute /neglected children;
- (c) : whether the Government has reviewed those schemes/programmes in the recent past;
- (d) : if so, the details alongwith the outcome thereof; and
- (e) : the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make those schemes more purposeful?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS [A] TO [E] OF LOK SABHA STARED QUESTION NO. 407 FOR 23.04.2010 BY SHRI VITTHALBHAI HANSRAJBHAI RADADIY AND SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL REGARDING 'DESTITUTE/NEGLECTED CHILDREN'

[a] to [e]: The number of destitute/neglected children, being fluctuating in nature, is difficult to determine. The Government is, however, implementing various schemes for protection/education of children, including those who are destitute/neglected.

The Ministry of women and child Development [MWCD] has introduced, from 2009-10, a comprehensive umbrella scheme, the 'integrated Child Protection Scheme {ICPS}, in order to provide a safe and secure environment for overall development of children in difficult circumstances. ICPS incorporates the components of three erstwhile schemes namely, 'A Programme for Juvenile Justice' 'An Integrated Programme for Street Children'; and 'Scheme of Assistance to Homes [Shishu Greh] for children to Promote in-country Adoption with added interventions to cover the gaps identified in these Schemes through detailed evaluations The Scheme provides for setting up of Various types of homes for children and open shelters in urban and semi-urban areas; supports expansion of the emergency service (Childline) ; and promotes non-institutional care through foster care, adoption, sponsorship and after care.

Another program me being implemented by MWCD is the Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection' which facilitates the entry/re-entry of working and vulnerable out of school children into mainstream education. Besides protection, both these schemes provide for nutrition health inputs, dregde education, vocational training, etc.

The Sarva Shiksha adhiyan [SSA] of the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, aims to provide education for all children in the 6 to 14 age group including destitute/neglected children, through Primary and Upper Primary schools, Education Guarantee Schooling Centre's and context specific and innovative interventions for children in difficult circumstances.

To ensure effective implementation of all the schemes, their performance is monitored through periodical reviews and inspections. As evaluation of the 'Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of care and Protection', done during 2009-10, indicates that the scheme has proved to be effective, as about 50% of the children enrolled have withdrawn from the work force and 28.5% children have been inducted into mainstream education