GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4521 ANSWERED ON:20.08.2010 STREET CHILDREN

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

- (a) whether the Integrated Child Protection Scheme and Integrated Scheme for Street Children have been implemented in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of destitute/orphan/street children benefited under the said Schemes, scheme-wise and State-wise:
- (c) the funds sanctioned, released and utilised by the State Governments during each of the last three year and the current year, Statewise and scheme-wise:
- (d) the reasons for under utilization of funds by the State; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure optimum utilisation of funds for the development of these children?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): Prior to 2009-10, Ministry of Women and Child Development was implementing a plan scheme namely, 'An Integrated Programme for Street Children' for the welfare and rehabilitation of street children under which funds were released directly to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). This scheme has been merged under the 'Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)' which is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme introduced by the Ministry in 2009-10 for implementation through State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

The objective of ICPS is to provide safe and secure environment for overall development of children who are in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law. ICPS envisages for establishment and maintenance of Children's Homes, Open Shelters in urban and semi-urban areas and Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAs), for children in need of care and protection including destitute/orphan/street children.

The State-wise number of street/destitute children benefited under the scheme 'An Integrated Programme for Street Children' are at Annex-I. The State-wise, number of children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law including destitute/orphan/street children covered under ICPS during 2009-10 is at Annex-II. The State-wise central share of funds sanctioned, released and utilized by the State Governments during 2009-10 under ICPS is at Annex-III. So far, no fund has been released to the State Governments under this scheme during the current financial year of 2010-11.

ICPS was introduced only in 2009-10 and is at its initial stage of implementation.