

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1774
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011
REHABILITATION OF ORPHANS
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram ;Suvendu Shri Adhikari

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

- (a): whether the Union Government has taken any new scheme for the empowerment and rehabilitation of orphans;
- (b): if so, the details thereof alongwith status and criteria of its implementation;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to conduct any survey in respect of rise in number of orphans living on footpaths and various Railway Stations of the country including Rajasthan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of such children?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): The Union Government in the Ministry of Women & Child Development is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, Integrated Child Protection Scheme [ICPS] from 2009-10 to provide safe and secure environment for rehabilitation of children who are in need of care and protection, including orphans children in conflict with law. All States/ UTs, except Jammu & Kashmir and Andaman & Nicobar Islands, have signed Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry for implementation of the Scheme.

The Scheme provides financial assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations, inter alia, for setting up and maintenance of

- i) Specialized Adoption Agencies [SAAs] in each district for placement of orphaned, abandoned or surrendered children in adoption by suitable families;
- ii) Homes for children, including orphans, who are in need of residential care, for their long-term care, education, training, development, rehabilitation and reintegration into the society, including grants for construction, and;
- iii) Open Shelters in Urban and Semi-Urban areas for children living on the streets. These shelters provide, inter alia, age-appropriate education, including life skill education, access to vocational training, bridge education, recreation, linkages to the National Open School Programme (NOSP), food, nutrition, health care, and counseling.

ICPS envisages setting up of District Child Protection Societies [DCPSs] in each district of States/UTs, including Rajasthan. Assessment of the number of children in difficult circumstances, including orphans living on footpaths or railway stations, with the objective of providing them the facilities required for their rehabilitation and reintegration through effective networking and linkages with other stakeholders, are important and integral part of the functions of DCPSs. In view of this, there is no proposal to undertake any separate survey to assess the number of orphans in the country.