

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:343
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2011
CHILD PROTECTION
Pakkirappa Shri S.

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of physical and sexual abuse and other evils which a child is subjected to;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to protect the children;
- (c) the expenditure incurred on the schemes/projects for child protection during the last three years and the current year and the current year, year-wise;
- (d) whether the children in institutional care like observation homes, shelter homes, children's homes have access to counsellors and psychologist; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 343 for answer on 26.08.2011 raised by Shri S. Pakkappa regarding 'Child Protection'

(a) & (b): The Government in the Ministry of Women and Child Development has conducted a Study on Child Abuse, in thirteen states, in 2007. Out of 12,447 children interviewed for this study, more than fifty-three percent (53 %) reported having faced one or more forms of sexual abuse, nearly two thirds of the children (69 %) reported having been physically abused and almost every second child (48.4 %) reported facing emotional abuse.

To create a safe and secure environment for children in the country, the Government in the Ministry of Women and Child Development has introduced a centrally sponsored scheme, namely, Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) from 2009-10 under which financial assistance is provided to State Governments/UT Administrations inter-alia for providing care and rehabilitation services to children such as orphan, abandoned, surrendered and working children etc. as well as children living on the streets. ICPS also seeks to reduce vulnerabilities of children through non institutional care, i.e. adoption, foster-care and sponsorship.

In addition, to address the issue of sexual offences against children the the Ministry of Women and Child Development has introduced the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Bill, 2011 in Rajya Sabha on 23.03.2011. The Bill provides for stringent punishment for sexual offences, particularly when the perpetrator is in a position of trust or has authority over the child. The Bill further provides for child friendly procedures to be adopted while dealing with such cases.

To protect, promote and defend child rights, the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 (CPCR Act) provides for setting up of a National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and State Commissions (SCPCR) in all States/UTs. The NCPCR was set up on 5th March 2007 and twelve (12) SCPCRs have also been set up.

(c): Prior to 2009-10, the Government in the Ministry of Women and Child Development was implementing four child protection schemes namely, (i) A Programme for Juvenile Justice; (ii) An Integrated Programme for Street Children; (iii) Scheme for Assistance to Homes (Shishu Greh) to promote In-Country Adoptions; (iv) Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection. The first three Schemes have been merged in ICPS.

Year-wise details of amounts sanctioned under ICPS and the aforesaid Schemes during the last three years and the current financial year (up to 23.08.2011) are at Annex.

(d) & (e): Rule 46 (6) of the Model Rules under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 provides that every institution set up and managed by the State Governments/UT Administrations, either by themselves or through voluntary organisations, shall have the services of trained counselor, or collaboration with external agencies such as child guidance centres, psychology and psychiatric departments or similar agencies, for specialized and regular individual therapy for every child in the institution. The Government in the Ministry of Women and Child Development is providing financial assistance to State Governments/UT

Administrations for setting up and maintenance of Homes which iner-alia includes salary of one counselor for a Home of fifty (50) children.