

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:90

ANSWERED ON:05.08.2011

STREET CHILDREN

Pathak Shri Harin;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing any scheme/ programme for the welfare and protection of street children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of street children, sex-wise reported during the last three years and the current year in the country, State/UT-wise; and;
- (d) the number of girl children out of them adopted during the above period, State/UT-wise and year-wise?

Answer

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

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

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 90 for answer on 05.08.2011 raised by Shri Anjan Kumar M. Yadav and Shri Harin Pathak regarding 'Street Children'

(a) & (b): The Government of India in the Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) through State Governments/Union Territory Administrations with the objective to create a safe and secure environment for overall development of children who are in need of care and protection, including street children, as well as children in conflict with law.

Under this Scheme, there is provision for setting up of 'Open Shelters' for providing care and rehabilitation services to children in need of care and protection, including the street children, in urban and semi-urban areas. The programmes and activities at these Open Shelters inter alia include age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, bridge education, linkages to the National Open School Programme (NOSP), health care, counseling etc.

(c): The Government, in the Ministry of Women and Child Development, does not collect data regarding number of street children nor are there authentic figures available from any other source for the country. One of the reasons for it is that their number is fluctuating in nature. However, the State-wise and Year-wise number of beneficiaries covered under the 'Open Shelter' Component of the aforesaid scheme so far is Annexed.

(d): The Government of India, in the Ministry of Women and Child Development maintains data of orphan, abandoned and surrendered children adopted through adoption agencies associated with Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA). These children reside under the care of recognized adoption agencies prior to their placement in adoption. No data is maintained for adoption of street children.