

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2259

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2011

ORPHANS

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

- (a) the number of orphans including girls in orphanages alongwith the number of orphanages in the country, State-wise, including Rajasthan;
- (b) the funds sanctioned, released and utilized by the State Governments during the last three years and the current year to run these orphanages, year-wise;
- (c) whether a large number of children are languishing in orphanages across the country due to legal hurdles in child adoption process;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Ministry of Law and Justice has been consulted to speed up the legal process of adoption; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Orphanages can be set up under one of the three Acts, namely Women's and Children Institution (Licensing) Act, 1956, Orphanages and Other Charitable Homes (Supervision and Control) Act, 1960 and Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (JJ Act). JJ Act, as amended in 2006 mandates that all child care institutions should be registered under this law. The Government in the Ministry of Women & Child Development is following up with the State Governments/UT Administrations for ensuring the implementation of this requirement under the JJ Act. Such registration would enable collection of exact data on orphans and orphanages.

Prior to 2009-10, the Government of India in the Ministry of Women and Child Development was providing financial assistance under two schemes, namely (i) Scheme of Assistance to Homes for Children (Shishu Greh) to promote In-country adoption; and (ii) A Programme for Juvenile Justice, for children in difficult circumstances, including orphans. These two schemes have been merged into the new scheme i.e. Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) introduced by the Ministry in 2009-10 and are covered under the components Specialised Adoption Agency (SAA) and Institutional Care respectively. The State-wise details, including for Rajasthan, of fund sanctioned/released, number of Homes assisted and number of beneficiaries, including orphans and girls, covered under the above mentioned schemes during the last three years and the current year are at Annex A and Annex B respectively.

The Grant-in-aid released to the State Governments/agencies is generally utilized during the same financial year. However unspent balance, if any, is deducted at the time of release of subsequent instalment of funds.

(c) to (f): Delay has been reported in some cases in the legal process of finalization of adoption. Ministry of Law & Justice has been requested to help in speeding up the process.