

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1834

ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012

REHABILITATION OF DESTITUTE WOMEN

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Anuragi Shri Ghansyam ;Chakravarty Smt. Bijoya;Kishor Shri Kamal ;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

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

- (a) whether the Government has carried out any survey to ascertain the number of widows, destitute women, divorcee and single women in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for their rehabilitation and to provide them financial assistance; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): As per 2001 census, there are 34.3 million widows and 2.34 million divorced/separated women in the country. No further survey has been carried out by Ministry of Women & Child Development to ascertain the number of widows, destitute women, divorced women and single women in the country.

(c)&(d): Ministry of Women and Child Development had been administering Swadhar scheme since 2001 for Women in difficult circumstances. Under the Scheme, temporary accommodation, maintenance and rehabilitative services are provided to women and girls rendered homeless due to family discord, crime, violence, mental stress, social ostracism. Another scheme with the similar objectives/target group namely Short Stay Home (SSH) had been implemented by Central Social Welfare Board. Being the similar objective and target group, both the schemes have been merged to Swadhar Greh scheme with revised financial parameters.