

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1623  
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012  
UPLIFTMENT OF CHILDREN  
Chakravarty Smt. Bijoya;Singh Shri Sukhdev

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

- (a) the number of children in the rural areas;
- (b) the details of the special schemes launched by the Government for the upliftment of children living in rural areas in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the funds sanctioned and utilized by the Government under the said scheme during the said period; and
- (d) the further steps taken by the Government for the welfare of the children?

**Answer**

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

- (a): As per provisional population totals of Census 2011, the number of children (0-6 years) in the rural areas in the country was 11.76 crores.
- (b) to (d): The Government is implementing various schemes for the protection, welfare and development of children, both in rural and urban areas. No special scheme has, however, been launched for the upliftment of children in rural areas alone during the last three years and the current year. Major schemes being implemented for the protection, welfare and development of children are:
  - (i) Integrated Child Development Services - for the overall development and growth of children, inter alia aiming to (a) improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age group 0-6 years; (b) lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child; and (c) reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity and malnutrition.
  - (ii) Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) - for protection of children, aiming at improvement in the conditions and well being of children in need of care and protection as well as for children in conflict with law.
  - (iii) Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls - SABLA, introduced initially in 200 districts, aiming at an all-round development of adolescent girls of 11-18 years by making them self-reliant by facilitating access to learning, health and nutrition,