

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2164

ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012

CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEES/DISTRICT CHILD PROTECTION UNITS

Chang Shri C. M.;Sardinha Shri Francisco;Semmalai Shri S.

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

- (a) the number of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs)/District Child Protection Units (DCPUs) for the children in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether some State Governments/UT Administrations are yet to set up CWC/DCPU in each district;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has made any assessment of the functioning of these CWCs/DCPUs;
- (e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (f) whether the Government is contemplating to standardise the reporting structures and appointment procedure in CWCs/DCPUs; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): As per the information furnished by State Governments/UT Administrations, the number of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) and District Child Protection Units (DCPUs), State/Union Territory-wise, is at Annex. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (JJ Act), which provides for setting up of CWCs and DCPUs, is not applicable to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) & (c): There is no State/UT, except Jammu and Kashmir, which has not set up CWCs at all. Twenty-two (22) States and four (4) Union Territories have set up CWCs in each district. Another five (5) States and three (3) UTs have set up CWCs in some districts.

Nineteen (19) States and one (1) Union Territory has set up DCPUs in each district. Another two (2) States have set up DCPUs in some districts. DCPUs have not been set up so far in six (6) States, excluding Jammu and Kashmir, and six (6) UTs.

The major reason reported by the State Governments/UT Administration for not setting up these structures is procedural delays in States/UTs for obtaining internal approvals.

(d) & (e): The implementation of Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) being implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development through the State Governments, including functioning of CWCs and DCPUs, is reviewed from time to time through regular meetings and visits to the States as well as by the inter-ministerial Project Approval Board constituted for appraisal and approval of financial proposals submitted by the States for release of grants under the Scheme.

These reviews show that the Members of some CWCs are not adequately trained and sensitised, thus resulting in lack of understanding of issues and procedures and delays in decision-making. Further, requisite staff has not yet been appointed in some DCPUs, pending approvals at the State levels. A major reason for low level of recruitment is also that availability of personnel trained in child protection is inadequate. The Government, in the Ministry of Women and Child Development is regularly following up with the State Governments/UT Administrations for setting up these structures, where not available, recruitment of requisite personnel and training of CWC Members as well as other personnel under ICPS.

(f) & (g): Section 29 (2) of the JJ Act and Rule 22 of the Central Model Rules there-under already lay down the composition of the CWC as well as the qualifications of the Members thereof. Further, Rule 91 of the Model Rules provides for constitution of a Selection Committee, chaired by a retired High Court Judge, for inter-alia, making appointment of Members of the CWCs. Section 33(3) of the JJ Act provides that the State Government shall review the pendency of the cases of CWCs at every six (6) months and direct them to increase the frequency of their sittings, or constitute additional CWCs if required.

As regards DCPUs, Section 62A of the JJ Act provides for setting up of DCPUs by the State Governments. ICPS lays down the staffing pattern for DCPUs and provides for constitution of a Selection Committee, to be headed by District Magistrate of the

concerned district, for appointment of staff therein. The DCPUs are responsible to the State Government for implementation of ICPS.