GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1963
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2013
ORPHANS LIVING AT RAILWAY STATIONS FOOTPATH
Ajmal Shri Badruddin

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the increasing number of orphans living at various Railway Stations and footpaths in metro/big cities;

(b) whether these children are not protected with/covered under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS);

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to review the ICPS in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken under ICPS for the welfare of the orphans so far?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): There is no authentic data on number of orphan children living on the pavements and railway stations in the country. However, keeping in view the fact that a number of children are seen living on pavements and railway stations, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) which inter-alia aims to provide rehabilitation services to children in difficult circumstances, including such children. Under this Scheme financial assistance is provided to State Governments/UT Administrations for setting up of and maintenance of Open Shelters for short-term community based care and shelter for such children, which include contact points at railway stations, bus stands, crowded market areas etc. The Scheme also provides grants for Homes of various types for children in difficult circumstances. Children requiring long-term stay and other rehabilitation facilities are referred to Children's Homes. The State/UT-wise Open Shelters and various types of Homes, including Children's Homes provided financial assistance under ICPS during 2012-13 (upto 5th March, 2013), and beneficiaries covered there-under, which includes orphans, is at Annex.

(d) to (e): Does not arise.