

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1966
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2013
REFORMATION OF JUVENILES
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Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the juvenile homes have transformed into hotbeds of violence, addiction and abuse;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Justice Verma Committee on reforms in rape law has suggested for reformation for juvenile offenders and destitute juveniles;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken or proposed by the Government thereon?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): There is no evidence to prove that the Observation Homes and Special Homes have transformed into hotbeds of violence, addiction and abuse.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Recommendations of Justice Verma Committee on Amendments to Criminal Law relating to reformation of Juveniles, inter-alia, include the following:

(i) It is of paramount importance that the shelter homes and corrective institutions are constantly monitored by an independent body and reports are periodically assessed by the State Governments

(ii) The police has a key role in prevention of juvenile crimes. The police officers working in Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) should be adequately trained.

(iii) The appointments of Warden, Superintendents and Caretakers of all custodial homes should be based upon their professional competence.

(e): The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 [JJ Act] and Central Model Rules, there-under, provide for mechanisms for stringent monitoring of quality of services provided in child care institutions through the Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) and Inspection Committees set up by the State Government at State, district and city levels.

To ensure that children in all the Homes receive the best of care and minimum standards of care are maintained in institutions, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is persistently urging the State Governments/UT Administrations to identify and register all Child Care Institutions (CCI) under the JJ Act. Besides, advisories have been issued by this Ministry to all the State Governments/ UT Administrations for creation of Special Juvenile Police Units in accordance with the provisions of the JJ Act.

To expedite establishment of structures and procedures under the JJ Act, the Ministry of Women & Child Development is implementing the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), under which financial assistance is provided to the State Governments/UT Administrations for providing a safe and secure environment to children in difficult circumstances, including children in conflict with law. ICPS also provides that persons trained in the Juvenile Justice system and having knowledge of care and protection of children should be appointed to the posts of Superintendent/Project Manager, Probation Officer and Child Welfare/Protection Officer of these institutions to ensure professional competence.