

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4342
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013
EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN ORPHANAGES
Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to constitute a vigilance committee to keep a check on sexual and physical exploitation of children in orphanages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the other appropriate measures taken or proposed by the Government to protect the children in orphanages and for their proper rehabilitation?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. Does not arise.

(c): Section 34 (3) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 [JJ Act] provides for mandatory registration of all Child Care Institutions (CCIs) housing children in need of care and protection with the intent of enforcing minimum standards of care, under the Act and Rules there-under, for the services provided for children in these Homes. The JJ Act and Central Model Rules there-under provide for mechanisms for stringent monitoring of quality of services through Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) and Inspection Committees set up by the State Government at State, district and city levels. Further, the Rules provide for setting up of Children's Committees in every institution which are, inter-alia, also encouraged to report incidents of abuse and exploitation, if any. Besides, Rule 60 of the Model Rules framed under the JJ Act also prescribes comprehensive measures to respond in case any kind of abuse, including sexual abuse, neglect and maltreatment is noticed in the CCI.

To ensure that children in all the Homes receive the best of care, and are not subject to abuse and neglect, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has been strongly urging the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time to identify and register all CCIs under the JJ Act and set up functional inspection committees, where not available.

Further, with a view to protect children, including children in the Homes, from sexual abuse, 'The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act', 2012, which provides for stringent punishment for perpetrators of such crimes, has come into force with effect from 14th November, 2012, alongwith the Rules framed thereunder.