

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6028

ANSWERED ON:03.05.2013

AGE LIMIT IN CHILDREN HOMES

Punia Shri P.L. ;Singh Rajkumari Ratna;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

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

(a) whether the Government has prescribed any age-limit for orphans for their eligibility to obtain the facilities in various types of children homes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these facilities are available to these children after they attain adulthood, and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government has make or proposes to make registration of children homes and provision of child helpline in these children homes mandatory, and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Section 2(k) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 [JJ Act] defines a "child" as a person who has not completed eighteenth year of age. Children in need of care and protection, including orphans, who have not completed eighteenth year of age, are eligible for obtaining facilities in Children's Homes registered under the JJ Act.

(c): Section 44 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 mandates the State Governments/UT Administrations to have 'after care programmes' for taking care of children, for a period of three years, after they leave Children's Homes on achieving adulthood, to enable them to lead an honest, industrious and useful life. The Government, in the Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), under which financial assistance is provided to State Governments/UT Administrations for, inter-alia, after care services for such children including girls, to help sustain them during the transition from institutional to independent life. The services include housing facilities, vocational training, help to gain employment, counseling and stipend etc.

(d): Section 34 (3) of the 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 laid down under the Act and Rules there-under for the services provided for children in these Homes. 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, management committees and children's committees, where not available. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is also providing financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), for setting up, upgradation and maintenance of Homes under the JJ Act. Under ICPS, financial assistance is also being provided to Childline India Foundation (CIF), Mumbai, for providing emergency outreach service through 24-hour toll free telephone (1098) to children in distress.