

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:460

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2013

CHILDREN HOMES

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Punia Shri P.L.

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of unregistered children homes are operating in the country;
- (b) if so, whether any monitoring mechanism has been put in place by the Government to monitor the functioning of various types of children homes in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof?
- (d) whether the Government proposes to amend the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 to strengthen it further; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 460 for 26.04.2013 raised by SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL and SHRI P. L. PUNIA regarding 'Children Homes'.

(a) to (c): 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. 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 is also prescribed under the JJ Act and Model rules thereunder. Further, the Rules also provide for setting up of Management Committees and Children's Committees in every institution for ensuring proper quality of care.

However, it has come to the notice of the Government in the Ministry of Women and Child Development, that some unregistered children homes are also functional in the country. 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, 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.

(d) & (e): To facilitate comprehensive amendments to the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has held a number of consultations with various stake holders including representatives from other Ministries and Departments, State Governments and Civil Society Organisations. The suggestions received in this regard include, inter- alia, clarity in the role of Juvenile Justice Boards and Child Welfare Committees; penal provisions for non-registration of Homes under the Act, strengthening of provisions related to adoption, special measures for children committing heinous offences etc.