

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4684
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2009
DEVDAASI REHABILITATION PROGRAMME
Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.

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

- (a): whether the Government has assessed the Devdasi Rehabilitation Programme;
- (b): if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of beneficiaries thereunder in Karnataka; and
- (c): if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a): The Government of India does not have any programme for rehabilitation of Devdasis. The Government of Karnataka which has such a programme has taken up evaluation of the programme in the district of Bellary.
- (b): As per the survey conducted by the Government of Karnataka in the year 1993-94, there were a total number of 22873 ex-Devdasis in the State. The Government of Karnataka introduced a pension scheme in 2007-08 to provide a monthly pension of Rs.400 to the ex-Devdasis.
- (c): Does not arise.