

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3953
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2015
SINGLE WOMEN
Singh Shri Ravneet

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any charter of demands from the National forum for single women's rights seeking changes in law to ensure that single women have land and property rights;
- (b) if so, the response of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether women who have been abandoned, deserted, never married, continue to be excluded from the census and Government welfare programmes in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) & (b): Ministry of Women and Child Development has not received any charter of demands from the National Forum for Single Women's Rights.

(c) & (d): Office of the Registrar General of India has informed that Census Data are collected of all persons living in the country at the time of Census taking which includes data on women, single women, old women, currently married women, never married women, divorced/ separated/ widowed women. The separate data on abandoned or deserted women is, however not collected in Census. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is administering various schemes/programmes such as Swadhar and Short Stay Home, Working Women Hostels, Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP), Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW) for the welfare and empowerment of women which can also be availed by single women, on meeting the specific requirements prescribed there under.