

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4116
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2015
UNDER -PRIVILEGED AND MARGINALISED CHILDREN
K. Shri Parasuraman

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

(a) whether the adverse socio-economic factors are interlinked with lack of education and sub-optimal development of under-privileged and marginalized children in the country, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(b) the remedial measures taken by the Government to provide education and development of under-privileged and marginalized children in the country?

Answer

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

(a): The Ministry of Women and Child Development has not conducted any study regarding linkage of adverse socio-economic factors with lack of education and development of under-privileged and marginalised children.

(b): The Ministry is implementing a centrally sponsored Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme which is a unique programme aimed at addressing health, nutrition and the development needs of young children. One of the component of the scheme is pre-school and non-formal education. The scheme is specifically designed to reach disadvantaged and low income group for effective disparity reduction. The Ministry of Human Resource Development is also implementing a flagship programme Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for providing free education to children of 6-14 years age group. SSA is being implemented in partnership with State Governments to cover the entire country. It seeks to provide quality elementary education including life skill.