

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1006

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2014

CHILD ADOPTION NORMS

Roy Prof. Saugata;Sawaikar Shri Advocate Narendra Keshav

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

- (a) the existing guidelines for adoption of children in the country;
- (b) whether there is variation in adoption laws for different communities or religion, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to enact a uniform child adoption law throughout the country, if so, the details thereof and time by which it is likely to be done;
- (d) the details of Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs) recognised under Section 34 and 41 of Juvenile Justice Act in the country to facilitate adoption along with the number of kids adopted through these agencies during each of the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise; and
- (e) whether the Government has observed any irregularities in the functioning of these agencies, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

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

- (a): The existing guidelines for adoption of children in the country are the "Guidelines Governing the Adoption of Children", notified by the Government in June' 2011.
- (b) & (c): Uniform law for the adoption of orphan, abandoned and surrendered children by prospective adoptive parents irrespective of their religion, is available under section 41 of the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2000. Hence, there is no proposal to enact a separate uniform child adoption law. In addition the Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs & Jains can also adopt the child under the provisions of Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act (HAMA).
- (d): The details of the Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs) recognised under section 41 of the Juvenile Justice Act in the country and the number of children adopted through these agencies, State-wise is Annexed.
- (e): The Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs) operate under the administrative control of respective State Government/UTs. There are no records available with the Ministry about the irregularities reported in the functioning of SAAs from concerned State Governments/UTs