

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 318
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.11.2024

IMPACT OF INTERNET ON THE MENTAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN

318#. Dr. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE:

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

- a. whether Government has taken steps to address the adverse impact of internet on the mental health of children; and
- b. if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD
DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

(a) & (b) : National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) had conducted a study on 'Effects (Physical, Behavioural and Psycho-social) of using Mobile Phones and Other Devices with Internet Accessibility by Children' in 2021. It made recommendations to address the adverse impact of internet on the mental health of children.

The study report is available on NCPCR's website at the following Link –

https://www.ncpcr.gov.in/uploads/165650458362bc410794e02_effect1.PDF

Ministry of Women and Child Development has collaborated with the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru which has established a National Initiative and Integrated Resource Centre for Child Protection, Mental Health, and Psychosocial care named 'SAMVAD' (Support Advocacy and Mental Health interventions for Children in Vulnerable Circumstances and Distress). Under SAMVAD, a total of 1,69,106 (up to 30.09.2024) stakeholders comprising of law enforcement officers, judicial officers, child protection functionaries, education functionaries, health and mental health professionals have been trained and sensitized towards care and protection of children in vulnerable circumstances.
