

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 3679
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2025

ADOPTION UNDER JUVENILE JUSTICE ACT

3679 DR. SYED NASEER HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pending adoption cases under the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) as of 2024, categorized into domestic and inter-country adoptions;
- (b) whether the amendments to the Juvenile Justice Act that streamlined adoption procedures by granting District Magistrates (DMs) authority have led to faster processing of cases, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has identified malpractices or illegal adoptions carried out by unregistered agencies, and if so, the number of such cases detected and actions taken in the last five years?

ANSWER

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

(a): There are 32856 In-Country Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs) and 859 Inter-Country Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs) waiting for adoption as per data on Child Adoption Resource Information & Guidance System (CARINGS) portal.

(b): The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal Ministry for the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act, 2015) which is the primary legislation for ensuring safety, security, dignity and wellbeing of children in need of care and protection. The functionaries of the States & UTs implement the Act through institutions like State Adoption Resource Agencies, local Child Welfare Committees and District Child Protection Units (DCPU). The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Rules, 2022 have empowered the District Magistrates (DMs) on adoption related matters. At present, there are only 22 adoption orders pending at DM level across the country as per the CARINGS portal.

(c): Adoption process is completely online and transparent through the designated CARINGS portal. There is no scope to register illegal adoptions through CARINGS portal.
