

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 636**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2026

**IDENTIFICATION, PROTECTION, AND REHABILITATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN**

636. SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI:

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

- (a) whether any special scheme or program is being implemented by Government to identify homeless/nomadic children living in public places such as roads, sidewalks, railway stations and bus stands and provide protection and social security to them and their families, if so, the main features and current status thereof; and
- (b) the State-wise/Union Territory-wise number of children identified and the number of children who have been admitted to shelters or rehabilitation centres along with their families and the details thereof, during last three year and current year?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

**(a):** The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal Ministry for the administration of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act, 2015) which is the primary law for care and protection of children in the country. As per Section 2 (14) (vi) of the JJ Act, a child who does not have parents and no one is willing to take care of and protect or who is abandoned or surrendered is included as a “child in need of care and protection.” The Act provides a security net of service delivery structures including measures for institutional and non-institutional care to ensure comprehensive well-being of children in distress situations.

Mission Vatsalya scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) which is implemented through States and Union Territories to deliver services for Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) and Children in Conflict with Law (CCL) which include Institutional Care and Non-Institutional Care. Under the scheme Institutional Care is provided through Child Care Institutions (CCIs), as a rehabilitative measure. The programmes and activities in homes inter-alia include age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, health care, counselling etc. Under the Non-Institutional Care component, support is extended for Adoption, Foster Care, After Care and Sponsorship. Further Mission Vatsalya also provides for “After care” services after the age of 18 years to help sustain them during the transition from institutional to independent life.

Under Mission Vatsalya Scheme, States and Districts are mandated to implement a 24x7x365 Child Helpline service (1098) for children as defined under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2015. Child Helpline has been integrated with the Emergency Response Support System-112 (ERSS-112) helpline of Ministry of Home Affairs and is functional in all 36 States and Union Territories. States and Union Territories are also mandated to establish Child helpdesk at Railway Stations and Bus Stands as part of Child helpline.

b) The primary responsibility of execution of the JJ Act and implementation of Mission Vatsalya Scheme lies with the States and Union Territories. The State-wise and Union Territory-wise number of children admitted to CCIs during last three years and current year as on 31.12.2025 is at **Annexure**.

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**ANNEXURE**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.636 FOR ANSWER ON 04.02.2026 BY SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI**

**THE STATE-WISE AND UNION TERRITORY-WISE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO CHILD CARE INSTITUTIONS DURING LAST THREE YEARS AND CURRENT YEAR AS ON 31.12.2025**

S. No.	State	Beneficiaries			
		FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26 as on 31.12.2025
1	Andhra Pradesh	1504	1546	2152	2284
2	Arunachal Pradesh	206	206	420	222
3	Assam	1380	1241	1615	1246
4	Bihar	2088	2227	2958	3228
5	Chhattisgarh	1974	1843	1876	1632
6	Goa	526	461	519	405
7	Gujarat	1651	3195	2393	2987
8	Haryana	1239	963	946	960
9	Himachal Pradesh	805	926	1390	1312
10	Jammu and Kashmir	817	1104	1385	1870
11	Jharkhand	1219	1238	1995	1765
12	Karnataka	3182	3110	4587	2853
13	Kerala	697	776	1345	1370
14	Madhya Pradesh	2292	2597	2303	2392
15	Maharashtra	3654	3495	3667	4185
16	Manipur	2121	2295	2296	2555
17	Meghalaya	972	1031	990	993
18	Mizoram	914	1172	1348	1742
19	Nagaland	493	562	621	663
20	Odisha	4153	4431	4627	6536
21	Punjab	607	533	506	543
22	Rajasthan	2560	2733	3958	4499
23	Sikkim	526	468	660	675
24	Tamil Nadu	7785	10118	12438	11217
25	Telangana	1129	2243	2485	2455
26	Tripura	829	948	1085	1235
27	Uttar Pradesh	3238	3226	5420	5125
28	Uttarakhand	700	589	868	909
29	West Bengal	6220	4744	7615	7725
30	Andaman & Nicobar	308	274	263	264
31	Chandigarh	202	222	344	370

32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	28	36	64	58
33	Ladakh	25	84	77	96
34	Lakshadweep	0	<b>0</b>	0	0
35	National Capital Territory of Delhi	1206	1216	1012	1570
36	Puducherry	690	739	654	673

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