

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4180
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2017

STOLEN CHILDHOODS

4180. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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

- (a) whether as per the report of Stolen Childhoods—Save the Children, India ranks a poor 116 in global index of places where childhood is most threatened and lags behind even Myanmar, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Maldives etc. and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons put forward in report for low ranking of India;
- (b) the details of indicators taken up for assessment by the report;
- (c) whether it is true that the Government is contesting the indicators/parameters and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken by the Government to enrich childhood in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ)

- (a): As per the “*Stolen Childhood*” report of Save the Children covering 172 countries, India has been ranked at 116 on the childhood index. However, the data pertaining to various components used for arriving at rankings of various countries is not uniform. For some countries the data used pertain to the period 2005-2010 (Bhutan, Maldives, India, Sri Lanka) while in some cases the data used is pending re-analysis (i.e. Myanmar, etc). In the case of India, as per NFHS-4, there is a decline in the level of malnutrition and stunting which is 35.7% and 38.4% as against 42.5% and 48% respectively in NFHS-3.
- (b) & (d): The indicators used in the above Report are (a) Under-5 Mortality rate; (b) Child stunting; (c) Out-of-School children of primary and secondary school age; (d) Children engaged in child labour; (e) Adolescents currently married or in union; (f) Adolescent birth rate; (g) Population forcibly displaced by conflict; and (h) Child homicide rate. There is no proposal to contest the indicators/parameters.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) is implementing a centrally sponsored Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) for the improvement in the well being of children in difficult circumstances since, 2009. Under ICPS, financial assistance is provided to the States/UTs for, inter-alia, undertaking a situational analysis of children in difficult circumstances, for setting up and maintenance of various types of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) as well as for providing non-institutional care. Under institutional care provided through CCIs, as a rehabilitative measure, children are provided age appropriate education either within the institution or outside in a formal education system through convergence with other schemes and programs of the Government or civil society. Under the non-institutional care component, ICPS provides support for adoption, foster care and sponsorship.
