GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4668 TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2018

ADOPTION OF SIBLINGS

4668. SHRI G. HARI:

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

- (a) whether it is true that siblings can be separated during adoption with consent and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also true that there are over 809 sets of siblings in CARA's adoption pool at present and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government for their adoption?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Section 39(1) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act), states that the process of rehabilitation and social integration of children under this Act shall be undertaken, based on the individual care plan of the child, preferably through family based care such as by restoration to family or guardian with or without supervision or sponsorship, or adoption or foster care. Provided that all efforts shall be made to keep siblings placed in institutional or non institutional care, together, unless it is in their best interest not to be kept together. And Section 44(3) states that all efforts shall be made to keep siblings together in foster families, unless it is in their best interest not to be kept together. Further Regulations 29(1) (m) of the Adoption Regulations, 2017, states that every Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs) shall ensure that siblings and twins are placed in the same family, as far as possible. The total number of children who are siblings/twins, as per details entered on CARINGS by the SAAs, as on 16th March, 2018, are 174. Section 74 of the JJ Act relates to prohibition on disclosure of identity of children. Hence, in view of Section 74 of the Act, the details (identity) of siblings/twins registered on CARINGS are not annexed.
