### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2934

TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2018

#### BALIKA SAMRIDDHI YOJANA

#### 2934 SHRI GOPAL SHETTY:

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

- (a) whether the Balika Samridhi Yojana in the country has been discontinued, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the number of girl child benefited from the scheme during the period of its implementation;
- (c) whether the government has launched any other alternative scheme in its place and if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated, released and utilised thereon during the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government is contemplating to allocate more funds for the said scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

#### **ANSWER**

# MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (DR.VIRENDRA KUMAR)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Madam, Balika Samridhi Yojana has been discontinued from Eleventh Plan onwards and at present the scheme is not in existence either as Central Scheme or Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Several reasons/constraints were reported by the States regarding implementation of Balika Samridhi which are given as under
  - i. This Yojana amount was meager and the waiting period for maturity was too long Rs. 6700/- total amount was to be received after waiting for 18 years;
  - ii. After first deposit at birth, there was a gap of 6 years where the deposit had to be kept alive without any transactions;
  - iii. Issue of keeping fixed deposits for over 5 years was another technical hitch; families could not get benefit as amounts were locked. Scholarships amounts were blocked, therefore no incentive for girl to be retained in school;
  - iv. Multi agency delivery mechanism and hence administrative costs were high; scheme did not provide adequately for administration costs of the scheme;
  - v. The time and effort in implementation was high more than 11 transactions for an amount of Rs. 6700/-.

The planning Commission had proposed transfer of BSY to States since 2005-06. Therefore, no funds were released to States.

- (c) : No Madam
- (d) to (e): Does not arise.