

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.582**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2022

**CHILDREN AFFECTED BY COVID-19**

582. SHRI MAHESH SAHOO:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment of children living in destitute homes affected by COVID-19 since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021;
- (b) if so, the number of recovered and fatal cases of children living in destitute homes in Odisha;
- (c) the measures adopted for the post COVID recovery of these children; and
- (d) the number of children affected by COVID-19 in Odisha since 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2021, district-wise?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (d) : The Ministry of Women and Child Development is administering the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act, 2015) which is the primary legislation for ensuring safety, security, dignity and well-being of children. It defines standards of care and protection to secure the best interest of child.

Under the JJ Act, 2015 (Sections 27-30), the Child Welfare Committees have been empowered to take decisions with regard to the children in need of care and protection, keeping their best interest in mind. They are also mandated to monitor the functioning of the Child Care Institutions (CCIs).

The Ministry is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme namely Mission Vatsalya Scheme to support the State and UT Governments for delivering services for Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) and Children in Conflict with Law (CCL). The Child Care Institutions (CCIs) established under the scheme support inter-alia age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, health care and counselling. The Ministry regularly follows up with the State/ UT Governments so as to ensure that CCIs adhere to the standards of care as per the JJ Act, 2015 provisions. Various advisories have been sent to all State/UT Governments regarding mandatory inspection of all CCIs.

The data about number of children affected by Covid-19 in any state is not maintained centrally. in Odisha, as on 31.08.2022, there were 8418 children living in 234 CCIs, out of which 188 children had recovered from COVID-19. No fatality among the children living in CCIs in Odisha has been reported.