

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1585
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2023

INTEGRATED SCHEMES FOR CHILDREN

†1585. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:

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

- (a) the salient features of the integrated scheme for destitute children;
- (b) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to State Governments, local bodies, educational institutions and self-help organizations to implement the said scheme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the criteria adopted by the Government for monitoring of the functions/achievements of self-help organizations under the said scheme; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure effective implementation of the said scheme?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) : The Ministry is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme namely 'Mission Vatsalya' through the State and UT Governments on pre-defined cost sharing pattern 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 guidelines for implementation of Mission Vatsalya Scheme were issued on 05.07.2022 to all States/UTs.

Further, the salient features of the Mission Vatsalya scheme are (a) to promote family-based non-institutional care of children in difficult circumstances based on the principle of institutionalization of children as a measure of last resort, (b) to lay emphasis on child rights, advocacy and awareness along with strengthening of the juvenile justice care and protection system with the motto to 'leave no child behind' and (c) to raise public awareness, educate public about child rights at all levels for ensuring the best interest of children.

The scheme envisages a robust ecosystem through the network of state and local governments to ensure the safety and security of children in the country. The scheme provides for the child welfare and protection through the existing Standing/Sub-Committee system of the Urban Local Body/Panchayati Raj Institution/Gram Panchayat which deals with the issues of social justice/welfare of women and children.

Under the Scheme, funds are released to the States/UTs including for awareness generation, Information Education & Communication (IEC), training and capacity building of stakeholders. The scheme also provides Training Fund for organizing programs at block, district & state level for different categories of functionaries, Research and Documentation, Awareness generation through IEC and media campaign including printing and dissemination of IEC materials.

(d) & (e): The Ministry implements the Mission Vatsalya Scheme through the State and UT Governments and regularly follows up with them so as to ensure that CCIs adhere to the standards of care as per the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (as amended in 2021) provisions. Various advisories have been sent to all State/UT Governments regarding mandatory inspection of all CCIs. The Ministry of Women and Child Development has organised National and zonal level workshops on Mission Vatsalya Scheme, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection for Children) Act, 2015 (as amended in 2021); Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (as amended in 2019) and Rules thereunder, Adoption Regulations, 2022 for multi stakeholders in different States/UTs for effective implementation of the Scheme including child rights. Further, as per section 106 of JJ Act, 2015, the primary responsibility and execution of the JJ Act, 2015 lies with the States/UTs.
