

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1558
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2023

STEPS FOR PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN J&K

1558. SHRI HASNAIN MASOODI:

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

- (a) the total number of Child Welfare Committees constituted for the protection of children in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K);
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government for the implementation of child protection in J&K; and
- (c) the number of residential homes for mentally challenged orphans in J&K, district-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) : 20 Child Welfare Committees have been constituted in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) and supported under Mission Vatsalya Scheme for the protection of children.

(b) : The Ministry of Women and Child Development is administering the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act, 2015) (as amended in 2021), which is the primary legislation for ensuring safety, security, dignity and well-being of children in all States/UTs including J&K. 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 function of the Child Care Institutions (CCIs). Similarly, the Juvenile Justice Boards are empowered to take decisions regarding the welfare of children in conflict with law (sections 04-09). At the national and state level, the JJ Act provides the National/State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights to monitor the implementation of the Act (section 109).

Further, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing Mission Vatsalya Scheme in all States/UTs including J&K, for care, protection, rehabilitation and reintegration of children in difficult circumstances on predefined cost sharing basis between the Central and the State Governments. Under Mission Vatsalya Scheme, support is provided for setting up and maintenance of various types of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and funds for Non-Institutional Care. Such children have access to both institutional and non-institutional care and rehabilitation under Mission Vatsalya Scheme.

Ministry of Women and Child Development organised a workshop on strengthening child protection in Jammu & Kashmir in November, 2022 in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Government of J&K with the participation of the United Nations.

Further, the Ministry regularly follows up with the State and UT Governments and various advisories have been issued, so as to ensure the effective implementation of Mission Vatsalya Scheme.

(C) : District-wise number of Children Homes and Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs) for Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) including mentally challenged orphans in J&K is at **Annexure-I**.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C) OF THE LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 1558 FOR ANSWER ON 28.07.2023 BY SHRI HASNAIN MASOODI REGARDING STEPS FOR PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN J&K

A. NUMBER OF CHILDREN HOMES FOR CNCP CHILDREN INCLUDING MENTALLY CHALLENGED ORPHANS

Sl. No.	Districts	No. of Children Homes
1	Anantnag	2
2	Bandipora	2
3	Baramulla	2
4	Budgam	2
5	Doda	2
6	Ganderbal	2
7	Jammu	5
8	Kathua	2
9	Kishtwar	2
10	Kulgam	2
11	Kupwara	2
12	Poonch	2
13	Pulwama	2
14	Rajouri	6
15	Ramban	2
16	Reasi	2
17	Samba	2
18	Shopian	2
19	Srinagar	2
20	Udhampur	2

B. NUMBER OF SPECIALIZED ADOPTION AGENCIES FOR CNCP CHILDREN INCLUDING MENTALLY CHALLENGED ORPHANS

Sl. No.	Districts	Specialized Adoption Agency
1	Jammu	1
2	Srinagar	1
3	Bandipora	1
4	Rajouri	1
5	Kupwara & Baramulla	1
6	Shopian & Kulgam	1
7	Anantnag & Pulwama	1
8	Kathua & Samba	1
9	Reasi & Udhampur	1
10	Ramban & Doda	1
11	Kishtwar	1
12	Budgam	1
