GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.2196 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2022

NEW NORMS FOR MISSION VATSALYA

2196. SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU: SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:

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

- (a) whether the Government has issued new norms for the 'Mission Vatsalya' Scheme in order to promote family based non-institutional care for kids in the country in difficult situations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with proposal, if any, to set up 24x7 helpline for children and Cradle Baby Response Centres for receiving abandoned babies in the country;
- (c) whether the Government has directed the States/ UTs to focus on special needs children in children care institutions and if so, the details thereof along with action taken thereon;
- (d) whether some restrictions have also been imposed on the State Governments in the implementation of the 'Mission Vatsalya' Scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme through State/UT Governments namely Mission Vatsalya under which, a monthly grant of Rs. 4000/per child is provided for family based non-institutional care including Sponsorship (kinship) or Foster Care or After Care. The Mission Vatsalya in partnership with States and Districts provides support to a 24x7 helpline service for children as defined under the JJ Act, 2015.

Further, the Mission Vatsalya Scheme envisages setting up Cradle Baby Reception Centres in at least one Specialized Adoption Agency (SAA), preferably government run, in each District, to save the abandoned children and look after them with due care and affection till he/she is given in adoption.

- (c) Yes, Sir. Under Mission Vatsalya Scheme, States/UTs need to focus on special need children in Child Care Institutions (CCIs), who are not able to go to school due to physical/mental disabilities. Special provisions are required to be made in the CCIs to provide services including Special Educators/therapist and Nurse required for such children in CCIs for occupational therapy, speech therapy, verbal therapy and other remedial classes as per the children's need. The capacity building of the Special Unit staff in sign language, Braille etc. are undertaken with help of resource institutions by States/UTs for such Homes.
- (d) & (e) Mission Vatsalya Scheme is implemented in partnership with States/UTs as per prescribed norms in the guidelines.
