

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2253
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2025

CHILD PROTECTION MECHANISMS

2253 .SHRI UJJWAL RAMAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of Mission Vatsalya being run for the purpose of Child protection through various mechanisms including Child Protection Units, Child Welfare Committees and Juvenile Justice Board;
- (b) the details of efforts made during the year 2024 to involve families and communities in Child Protection, to promote awareness and encourage communities ownership for the well-being of Children; and
- (c) the number of children adopted by overseas Indians under the said Mission during the year 2024?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

(a) : Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely 'Mission Vatsalya' through the State/ UT Governments on pre-defined cost sharing basis between the Centre and the State Governments to deliver various services for children in difficult circumstances, which include both institutional and non-institutional care services. The Child Care Institutions (CCIs) established under the Mission Vatsalya scheme support, *inter-alia*, age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, health care, counselling etc. Support under non-institutional care is provided by way of sponsorship, foster care and after care to children in need of care and protection.

The statutory and service delivery structures established under the Mission Vatsalya Scheme at the State and District level include the State Child Protection Society (SCPS) and State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA) at the State level and Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) and District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) at the district level. Presently 36 SCPS, 35 SARA, 764 DCPU, 783 CWC and 773 JJB are functioning under the scheme.

(b) : Mission Vatsalya guidelines envisage engagement with communities and encourage them to take ownership and wellbeing of Children in their areas. The Ministry constantly engages with the States/ UTs from time to time as regards implementation of Mission Vatsalya Scheme. The Ministry has issued various advisories for supporting on ground implementation. Online training and capacity building programmes are conducted for the stakeholders for awareness and better implementation of the scheme.

(c) : During the year 2024-25, total 87 children were adopted by Overseas Citizens of India (OCI Cardholder foreigners).
