

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO: *120
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2026

CHILD WELFARE AND PROTECTION COMMITTEES

*120. SHRI P V MIDHUN REDDY:
SHRI Y S AVINASH REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has any data on number of Village-level Child Welfare and Protection Committees currently operational in the country under Mission Vatsalya, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether any progress has been made in creating the "vulnerability map" at the village level, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any specific types of assistance/financial support are being provided to children identified as vulnerable, including those in foster care; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the mechanisms in place to monitor the effectiveness of this support?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTs (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.120 FOR ANSWER ON 06.02.2026 RAISED BY SHRI P V MIDHUN REDDY AND SHRI Y S AVINASH REDDY REGARDING CHILD WELFARE AND PROTECTION COMMITTEES

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal Ministry for implementing 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.

Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely 'Mission Vatsalya', through the State/ UT Governments on pre-defined cost sharing basis between the Central and the State Governments to deliver various services for children in difficult circumstances which include both institutional care and non-institutional care services. The scheme provides services to the Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) as well as Children in Conflict with Law (CCL) for their rehabilitation and social re-integration into the mainstream of the society. 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.

Under Sections 27-30 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, 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 CCIs. The JJ Act, 2015 (Section 109) provides for the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights at national level and State Commission for Protection of Child Rights at State level respectively to monitor the implementation of the Act.

As per Mission Vatsalya Guidelines, DCPUs are mandated to Undertake local vulnerability mapping of the district for children in difficult circumstances, analyse and monitor trends and patterns.

Under non-institutional care, a monthly grant of Rs. 4000/- per child is provided to the State Government on cost sharing basis for Sponsorship, Foster Care and After Care. The State Governments are encouraged to give additional grants to the State Child Protection Societies (SCPS) under Sponsorship and Foster Care Fund and proactively identify children who need protection with the support of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Bodies. Under the scheme, every district is mandated to constitute a Sponsorship and Foster Care Approval Committee (SFCAC) to review and sanction Sponsorship and Foster Care fund.

Mission Vatsalya scheme envisages a robust ecosystem through the network of State and Local Governments to ensure the safety and security of children in the country. These institutions are required to reach out to children, engage with communities and encourage them to take ownership of the wellbeing of Children in their areas.

Mission Vatsalya guidelines also envisage assigning of the functions of child welfare and protection issues to the existing committees of the Panchayati Raj Institution/ Gram Panchayat/ Urban Local Body which deal with the issues of social justice/ welfare of children. The details of the villages that have successfully established Village Level Child Protection Committees (VLCPCs) are not maintained centrally.
