

**Gender preference in adoption of children**

1585. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government to encourage adoption of children by Indians and foreigners and the details thereof;

(b) whether girl child is less likely to be adopted, the general outlook of parents who apply for adopting children in regard to the gender-preferences; and

(c) the number of children who are waiting to be adopted in various Government run shelter homes, the details thereof, State-wise and gender-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) In order to encourage in-country and inter-country adoption of children, the adoption procedure has been simplified and made online through Child Adoption Resource Information and Guidance System (CARINGS) since August, 2015. The roles and responsibilities of authorities and agencies concerned, the timelines for completing various procedures in the process of adoption have been clearly defined in the adoption guidelines.

(b) As per the information provided by Central Adoption Resource Authority, the number of Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs) opting for girl child is 2724, for male child is 2836 and for either girl child or male child is 2159 as on 04.03.2016.

(c) Details of the number of children who are waiting to be adopted in various Government Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs), State-wise and gender-wise are given in Statement.

***Statement***

*Details of number of children who are waiting to be adopted in various Government run Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs), State-wise and gender-wise as on 04.03.2016*

| Sl.No. | State          | Male | Female | Total |
|--------|----------------|------|--------|-------|
| 1.     | Andhra Pradesh | 46   | 69     | 115   |
| 3.     | Delhi          | 4    | 6      | 10    |
| 4.     | Gujarat        | 12   | 18     | 30    |
| 5.     | Karnataka      | 3    | 12     | 15    |
| 6.     | Madhya Pradesh | 3    | 2      | 5     |
| 7.     | Maharashtra    | 4    | 0      | 4     |

| Sl.No. | State         | Male | Female | Total |
|--------|---------------|------|--------|-------|
| 8.     | Manipur       | 1    | 2      | 3     |
| 9.     | Rajasthan     | 9    | 15     | 24    |
| 10.    | Telangana     | 30   | 102    | 132   |
| 11.    | Uttar Pradesh | 15   | 26     | 41    |
| 12.    | Uttarakhand   | 2    | 8      | 10    |
| TOTAL  |               | 129  | 260    | 389   |

Source : CARA

### Reproductive rights of women

1586. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by Government to spread awareness about the reproductive rights of women, especially among the rural population;

(b) whether Government is planning to criminalize the offence of marital rape to ensure the protection of these rights for married women; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) It is considered that the concept of marital rape, as understood internationally, cannot be suitably applied in the Indian context due to various factors e.g. level of education/illiteracy, poverty, myriad social customs and values, religious beliefs, mindset of the society to treat the marriage as a sacrament, etc.

### Indira Gandhi Maternity Benefit Scheme

†1587. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA. Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether under Indira Gandhi Maternity Benefit Scheme a sum of ₹ 14.95 crore is still payable to Rajasthan Government and by when the outstanding would likely to be released by the Government; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.