

children of women prisoners – children below three years of age shall be allowed in the crèches while those between three and six years of age shall be looked after in the nursery. Apart from above, the Central Government has enacted the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, which has replaced the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000. The new Act has come into effect from 15.01.2016. As per Section 2 (14) (i), (v), (ix) and (x) of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act), a child who is found without any home or settled place of abode and without any ostensible means of subsistence; or who has a parent or guardian and such parent or guardian is found to be unfit or incapacitated, by the Committee or the Board, to care for and protect the safety and well-being of the child; or who is found vulnerable and is likely to be inducted into drug abuse or trafficking; or who is being or is likely to be abused for unconscionable gains, respectively, is included as a “child in need of care and protection.” The primary responsibility in execution of the JJ Act lies with the State Governments. However Central Govt. is executing a scheme namely ICPS (now “Child protection Services”) for providing financial assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations, on sharing pattern, for execution of the Act and with the objective to create a safe and secure environment for overall development of children in need of care and protection, including children whose parents are incarcerated/orphan/destitute/neglected/abandoned/ surrendered etc. These include placement in Children Homes if there is no family to look after the said child, or sponsorship support if the child is living with family (financial support for education) to ensure that their education can continue in an undisturbed manner. Once placed in a children’s home the said child would receive multiple kinds of care and support including food, education, medical attention, vocational training, counselling etc. so that despite their disturbed family circumstances they can continue to develop to their full potential.

Funds for vocational training of homemakers

4465. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of women engaged in domestic duties during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government has taken any initiatives to provide funds to homemakers for skill or vocational training; and
- (c) if so, the quantum of funds allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) No such data has been maintained by this Ministry.

(b) This Ministry had been administering 'Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP) for Women' since 1986-87 as a 'Central Sector Scheme'. The STEP Scheme aims to provide skills that give employability to women and to provide competencies and skill that enable women to become self-employed/entrepreneurs. The Scheme is intended to benefit women who are in the age group of 16 years and above across the country, opened to all women.

(c) The funds allocated to various organizations under STEP Scheme during the last 3 years is as under:—

Sl.No.	Year	Funds released (₹ in lakhs)
1.	2015-16	1173.75
2.	2016-17	885.87
3.	2017-18	307.83

Role of anganwadi workers in national nutrition mission

4466. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of targets set under the National Nutrition Mission (NNM) for 2017-18 fiscal year and the achievements so far;

(b) the details of measures taken to equip Anganwadi Workers to achieve the targets set under NNM;

(c) whether the real time monitoring mechanism is in place to monitor the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) The annual targets set under POSHAN *Abhiyaan* beginning 2017-18 are as under:—

Sl.No.	Objective	Target
1.	Prevent and reduce stunting in children (0-6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
2.	Prevent and reduce under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
3.	Reduce the prevalence of anemia among young Children (6-59 months)	By 9% @ 3% p.a.