GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2718 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2021

UNSUPERVISED CHILDREN IN SHELTER HOMES

2718. SHRI IRANNA KADADI:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that a large number of children in shelter homes across the country are often left unsupervised, subjected to corporal punishment, given substandard food, devoid of medical or legal aid and languish for years without proper education or skill development;
- (b) if so, the facts and details in this regard;
- (c) whether a large number of shelter homes are not presenting children before the Child Welfare Committees or Juvenile Justice Boards as mandated by the Juvenile Justice Act; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with corrective measures taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): The Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 mandates reporting of children in need of care and protection before the Child Welfare Committee (Section 31) and reporting of children in conflict with law (Section 10) within a period of twenty four hours excluding the time necessary for the journey. Besides, The Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005 mandates National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights to monitor the best interest of children.

As and when any complaint is received, due action is taken by the Ministry in coordination with the States/UTs. As per the report submitted by the States/UTs, 436 Institutions were closed on account of non-compliance of provisions of the JJ Act from 01.08.2019 to 01.08.2020. The primary responsibility of execution of the JJ Act, 2015 rests with the State/UTs.
