

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.3511
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.03.2021

PROTECTION OF STREET DWELLING CHILDREN

3511. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the various provisions for the protection of street dwelling children;
- (b) the statistics on the status of these children during COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (c) the details of schemes and measures taken by the Ministry?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): As per Section 2 (14) (ii) of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act), a child who is found working in contravention of labour laws for the time being in force or is found begging, or living on the street is included as a “child in need of care and protection”, among others.

The Ministry implements a centrally sponsored scheme, named Child Protection Services (CPS) scheme, under Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Schemes for supporting the children in difficult circumstances including street children, as envisaged under JJ Act. Under the scheme institutional care is provided through Child Care Institutions (CCIs), as a rehabilitative measure. The programmes and activities in CCIs inter-alia include age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, health care, counseling etc. The primary responsibility of execution of the Act and implementation of Scheme rests with the State/UTs.

Due support was provided under the scheme during pandemic for care and protection of children in difficult circumstances, as per the scheme guidelines. Necessary advisories and coping strategy were also shared with the State /UTs, during the said period.

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has issued advisory regarding care and protection of children moving with migrant families and children living on streets/CCIs in light of COVID-19.
