

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1278
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2022

STATUS OF CRECHES

1278. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR

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

- (a) the current status of Government and non-Government creches shut down during the COVID-19 pandemic in the country;
- (b) whether there is any plan to re-open the closed creches and provide another opportunity to those who were providing their services in the past;
- (c) whether any assistance was provided to those who were serving in these Government and non-Government creches which were shut down;
- (d) whether there are any standard guidelines for setting up of creches on the same lines as of old age homes of voluntary organizations; and
- (e) the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) : Many States/UTs have informed that the creches shut down during the COVID-19 pandemic have either been re-opened or are in the process of re-opening on need basis. As per National Crèche Scheme guidelines, decision for running and continuation of operations of crèches is taken by State Governments and UT Administrations on the basis of verification and inspections got done by them.

(c) : As reported by many States/UTs, the assistance in the shape of honorarium has been provided to those who were serving in the crèches during the entire period of shut down as per norms.

(d) & (e) : Government of India has issued guidelines of 'Mission Shakti' - an integrated women empowerment programme, as umbrella scheme for the safety, security and empowerment of women. 'Palna' or National Creche Scheme is a component under 'Samarthya' sub-scheme of 'Mission Shakti'. The objective of Palna is to address the need for quality crèche care facilities for the children of working mothers in the age-group of 6 months to 6 years by providing safe and secure environment ensuring nutritional and cognitive development of the children. It envisages providing crèche facility to all mothers, irrespective of their employment status.

Q.No.1279 & 1280 Questions were cancelled.