### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 849 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024

#### CHILD CARE INSTITUTIONS

#### 849. SHRI SASIKANTH SENTHIL:

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

- (a) the details of the timeline for verifying and including children for Child Care Institutions (CCIs) in the foster care and adoption pool;
- (b) the details of the process used to assess the fitness of guardians in cases of foster care, specifically with regard to mental health and terminal illness criteria; and
- (c) the details of the mechanisms proposed by the Government to monitor the well-being of children placed in foster care and ensure accountability for their care?

#### **ANSWER**

## MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

- (a): The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (as amended in 2021) and the Adoption Regulations framed thereunder mention the timeline for Authorities and Agencies regarding adoption. Further, it has been requested that States/UTs must carry out an identification drive every two months for identifying children in the Child Care Institutions for foster care and adoptions.
- (b): The fitness of guardians in cases of foster care is determined on the basis of Home Study Report. As per provisions of Rule 23(12) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Model Rules, 2016 (as amended in 2022), the applicants for foster care are required to submit their medical fitness certificates as well as of family members.

(c): Rule 23 (18) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Model Rules, 2016 envisages that the Child Welfare Committees conduct monthly inspection of foster families or foster care givers in Form 35 to check the well being of the child. Besides, the District Child Protection Unit maintains a record of each child in foster care as per Form 34 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Model Rules, 2016 (as amended in 2022).

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