

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2283
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2025

SPECIAL PROVISION FOR ORPHANED CHILDREN

2283. DR. PRABHA MALLIKARJUN :

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

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the challenges faced by orphaned and vulnerable children in obtaining Aadhaar/essential identity documents, particularly in cases where guardianship/parental records are unavailable, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the measures taken, in coordination with the UIDAI and State Governments, to simplify documentation, enable institutional certification/ensure compliance with Supreme Court directions on the right to identity, education and welfare;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to consider special provisions for orphaned children in education, skilling/employment schemes at the national level;
- (d) if so, the details of proposals if any under examination along with expected timeline for their implementation; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken to ensure that orphans without Aadhaar are not denied access to school admissions, nutrition programmes, Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and other welfare benefits, including the use of alternative verification mechanisms?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal Ministry for the administration of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act, 2015) which is the primary legislation for ensuring safety, security, dignity and well-being of children and is implemented by the States and Union Territories. As per section 106 of JJ Act, 2015, the primary responsibility and execution of the JJ Act, 2015 lies with the States and Union Territories and they are required to ensure effective implementation of the Act.

The Ministry is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely 'Mission Vatsalya', through the State and Union Territory Governments to deliver various services for Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) including orphaned children as well as Children in Conflict with Law (CCL). These services include Institutional Care and Non-Institutional Care. The

Child Care Institutions (CCIs) established under the Mission Vatsalya scheme support, *inter-alia*, age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, health care, counselling etc. Under non-institutional care, support is provided to the children through Sponsorship, Foster Care, Adoption and After Care.

As per Mission Vatsalya Scheme guidelines, States and Union Territories have to ensure that documents of each child like Birth Certificate, Aadhar Card, School going Certificate, Vaccination Certificates, Health Check-up cards etc., of all the children are made available by the Child Care Institutions. Further, as per guidelines, CCIs are to ensure specific short term suitable certificate courses and skill training certificate courses for children in the CCIs in the age group of 14-18 years.

The Ministry of Women & Child Development, in conjunction with Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), has prepared a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Aadhaar enrolment of children in difficult circumstances including missing children or those who are separated from their families including orphaned children, which was issued on 25.06.2025.

The Ministry has issued various guidelines and advisories from time to time for strengthening implementation of JJ Act, 2015 by the States and Union Territories. The Ministry also regularly engages with the States and Union Territories with regard to implementation of the JJ Act effectively.
