

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4307
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2010
N CHILDREN IN REMAND HOMES AND ORPHANAGES
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any legislation or regulation regarding rehabilitation of mentally challenged, destitute children above eighteen years of the age living in remand homes and orphanages in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the difficulties in rehabilitation of such children due to the lack of legislation or regulation in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRID. NAPOLEON)

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is not implementing any Legislation aimed specifically at rehabilitation of Mentally Challenged Destitute Children above 18 years of age living in Remand Home and Orphanages. However, the juvenile Justice (Care and protection of Children) Act, 2000 provides for setting up and maintenance of Homes for children in conflict with law as well as in need of care and protection, which includes Mentally Challenged Destitute Children also. The Act further provides that for taking care of juveniles or children after they leave the Home, and for the purpose of enabling them to lead an honest, industrious and useful life, the State Governments may establish/recognize after care organizations. The juveniles/children getting this benefit should be over 17 years of age and less than 20. Thus, a child cannot stay in the care of these organizations for more than 3 years.

(c) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.