

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2851

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2004

LICENSES TO SEX WORKERS

Rao Shri Devarakonda Vittal;Thakkar Smt. Jayaben B.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government has proposed to legalize prostitution by providing licenses to sex workers;
- (b) If so, the details and objectives therefor ;
- (c) The steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate their family members especially children;
- (d) The progress made in this direction in various States especially in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar so far; and
- (e) The steps being proposed against those women/females who under the influence of underworld elements indulge in trafficking, the abuse of minors, violence against helpless sex workers etc.?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH)

(a) No, Sir .

(b) Does not arise .

(c) The Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children envisages that the State Governments may set up Anganwadis in red light areas, provide free and compulsory education to the children of victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Government/Municipal Schools, and also provide Text Books, Uniforms free of cost. The name of the father would not be insisted upon for the purpose of admission in any school or hostel. Projects are also being sanctioned

for continuing education, non-formal education and vocational training under the schemes of DWCD, CSWB, Department of Education, Ministry of Labour etc.

(d) All the State Governments/UT Administrations including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have taken initiatives through their programmes and schemes to implement Plan of Action and also set up State Level Advisory Committees under chairpersonship of Chief Secretaries/Addl. Chief Secretaries to monitor the implementation of programmes. The state governments are sending quarterly and biannual progress reports on the implementation of Plan of Action to the Central Government.

(e) India has ratified SAARC Convention on Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for prostitution and signed UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. The offenders of trafficking are booked under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956.