

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1456
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2010
KIDNAPPING OF CHILDREN
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of kidnapping of girls and boys are on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of such cases reported/registered and victims traced/untraced during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) the steps taken to trace all the kidnapped children;
- (d) the total number of accused arrested and gangs busted alongwith the action taken against them during the said period; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such cases in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) (b) & (d): As per National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) a total of 5102, 6377 and 7650 number of cases of kidnapping and abduction in case of children were reported during 2006-2008. No such information is maintained separately for boys and girls by NCRB. The State/UT-wise details of cases of kidnapping and abduction of children regarding case registered, cases charge sheeted, persons arrested and persons convicted during 2006-2008 are placed at Annexure-I. There is Information on gangs busted is not maintained separately by NCRB

(c) & (e): As per the seventh schedule to the Constitution of India "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects and, as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, Investigation and prosecution of crime including tracing all the kidnapped children lies with the States. However, Government of India is committed to augment the efforts of law enforcement agencies of the State Governments/UT Administrations, who are responsible for ensuring protection and well-being of children. The Ministry of Home Affairs has, from time to time, been issuing advisories to the state Governments, urging them to take effective steps to ensure prevention of crime against children and to provide security and protection to them. A detailed advisory dated 14th July, 2010 has been sent by Government of India to all the State Governments and UT Administrations wherein States/UTs have been advised to ensure all steps for improving the safety conditions in schools/ institutions, public transport used by students, children's parks/ play grounds, residential localities/ roads etc. It has also been advised that the crime prone areas should be identified and a mechanism be put in place to monitor infractions in such areas for ensuring the safety and security of students, especially girls. For this purpose the States/UTs have been advised to take following steps:

- i. Increase the number of beat constables;
- ii. Increase the number of police help booths/ kiosks, especially in remote and lonely stretches;
- iii. Increase police patrolling, especially during nights;
- iv. Posting police officers, especially women, fully equipped with policing infrastructure in crime-prone areas in adequate number.

There is also a 24-hour toll free emergency helpline service for children in need of care and protection in several cities under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.