

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3331
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009
MISSING CHILDREN
Panda Shri Baijayant

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cases of missing children are on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year including NCR of Delhi, State-wise;
- (c) the total number of such children traced during the said period;
- (d) the steps taken to trace all the remaining missing children;
- (e) whether the Delhi Police has submitted any report to the Delhi High Court that FIRs were lodged for more than 800 missing children during the current year;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the action plan of the Government to address this issue?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per the data provided by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the number of children reported as 'missing' for each of the year 2006, 2007 and 2008, State/UT wise are as per Annexure-A.

(c): As per NCRB data, the State/UT wise details of children traced for each of the year 2006-2007 and 2008, enclosed at Annexure-A.

(e) & (f): As per available reports, after the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi took cognizance of the matter, Delhi Police reviewed the status of 'yet to be traced children' and registered 1260 cases up to 30th June, 2009 which includes 264 cases of 2007 and 384 cases of 2008.

(d) to (g): 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, lies with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Central Government has issued separate advisories to the State Governments and UT Administrations from time to time, to give more focused attention to the prevention and control of missing children within their jurisdiction. However, as reported by Delhi Police, steps taken by them include a 24X7 helpline number for reporting missing persons in the NCT region, advertisement in leading newspapers, registration of FIRs, development of a web-based computer application ZIPNET which contain information on missing children. Clear instructions have been issued vide the revised standing order No. 258/09 to register case FIRs in each incident of untraced girl child of 18 years and below, untraced boys of 12 years and below and register an FIR in all such missing reports in case of any suspicion/foul play, irrespective of age. Door-to-door survey is conducted by Delhi Police through the beat and Division staff.