

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1543

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2011

MISSING CHILDREN

Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has constituted any Committee to examine the issue of missing children in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the said Committee has submitted its report;
- (c) if so, the details of recommendations made therein;
- (d) whether the Government has implemented all the recommendations;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to implement all the recommendations?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) to (c): As per inputs provided by National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), The Commission constituted a Committee on 12th February 2007 to examine the issue of missing children in depth from the point of view of evolving practical guidelines that would facilitate tracing and restoring missing children back to their families or to agencies/support systems where they could be taken care of and protected. A copy of the recommendations of the Committee was sent to Central Government as well as State Government / Union Territories Administration for action.

(d) to (f): 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, Government of India is deeply concerned with the welfare of children and through various schemes and advisories to the State Governments/ Union Territory Administration, augments the efforts of the States/UTs.

A detailed advisory dated 14th July, 2010 has been sent by the Central Government to all 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 indentified 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;
- v. The advisory has also recommended setting up of Mahila and Children desks, sensitization of law enforcement agencies and no delay in registration of FIRs;
- vi. As per the input provided by Ministry of Women and Child Development Child helpline is functioning in 150 districts.

Ministry of Home Affairs has also sanctioned a comprehensive scheme "Strengthening law enforcement response in India against trafficking in persons through training and capacity building" wherein it is proposed to establish 335 Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) throughout the country and impart training to 10,000 police officers through Training of Trainers (TOTs) in three years. Ministry of Home Affairs has released funds as first instalment amounting to Rs. 8.72 crores to all the State Governments for establishment of 110 Anti Human Trafficking Units. All the States have received funds.