

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3949
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2011
REHABILITATION OF SEX WORKERS
Ray Shri Rudramadhab

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether her Ministry has worked out a new policy to rehabilitate sex workers and tribal girls being brought by various agencies and forced into prostitution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures proposed by her Ministry to check exploitation of sex workers/tribal girls by such agencies?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) to (c) : There is no rehabilitation policy for sex workers. However, to provide rehabilitation services to victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing "Ujjawala", a comprehensive Scheme for prevention of trafficking and for rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of such victims, since 4th December, 2007. The Scheme is being implemented mainly through Non Governmental Organisations. 76 Rehabilitative Homes which can accommodate upto 3800 beneficiaries have been sanctioned, under the Scheme, in the country. These Rehabilitative Homes are given financial support for providing the inmates basic amenities such as food, clothing and shelter, medical care, legal aid, education in case the victims are children as well as for undertaking vocational training and income generation activities to provide the victims with alternate livelihood option. Further, rehabilitation is also envisaged through reintegration of the victims into the society for which financial assistance is provided for setting up of Half-Way Homes and for restoration of the victims to their families.

The Government is taking a number of other measures to combat trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation in the country. The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 supplemented by the Indian Penal Code prohibits, trafficking in human beings, including children and lays down penalties for trafficking. A comprehensive Advisory on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking in India has been issued on 09.09.2009 by the Government of India to all States/Union Territories. Further, the Government has set up Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) to strengthen the law enforcement response to trafficking.