

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4860  
ANSWERED ON:02.09.2011  
CHILDREN IN SEX TRADE  
Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

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

- (a) whether there is a rise in the involvement of children in sex trade in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether child sex trade is more prevalent in Banchra tribe in Madhya Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith outcome of the cases probed in connection therewith; and
- (e) the preventive measures adopted by her Ministry to curb this practice?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): A comprehensive study on 'Girls and Women in Prostitution in India' conducted in 2004, which was sponsored by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, had estimated that there were about 2.8 million prostitutes in the country of which 36% are children.

(c) to (d): As per the information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the probe into child sex trade among Banchra tribe has been completed. As part of the measures taken to curb the instances of child sex trade amongst the Banchra tribe, a survey was conducted by the State Government in the abodes of the tribe where the arrival of minor girls was closely observed. As a result of the survey 25 minor girls were rescued and sent to shelter homes where they are being provided with education and other facilities.

(e): The Government of India is taking a number of measures to prevent and 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 Ministry has been implementing the "Ujjawala" Scheme, under which financial assistance is being provided, inter alia, for prevention of trafficking through formation of community vigilance groups/adolescence groups, holding sensitization and awareness generation workshops and preparing awareness generation material.