

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1128
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012
SEX WORKERS
Dutt Smt. Priya Sunil

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government maintains the record of the number of sex workers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there exists a system of licence for sex workers in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there are reports that a large number of girls are forced into the sex trade; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) As per the inputs provided by Ministry of Women and Child Development, the Government does not maintain the record of the number of sex workers in the country.
- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) & f) Incidents of trafficking of minor girls for commercial sexual exploitation have been reported. However, data in this regard is not maintained centrally.

'Police' and 'Public Order' being State subjects, the primary responsibility for preventing and combating the crime of human trafficking lies with the State Governments. However, Government of India has adopted a multi-pronged approach to combat human trafficking including commercial sexual exploitation of setting up of Anti Trafficking Nodel Cell in Ministry of Home Affairs; launching of Certificate Course on Anti Human Trafficking by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) in partnership with MHA and implementing a comprehensive scheme for strengthening law enforcement response by establishing integrated Anti Human Trafficking Units and Training of Trainers. In this regard, Ministry of Home Affairs has released funds to the tune of Rs. 8.72 crores and 8.338 crores in the year 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively for establishment of 225 AHTUs. Ministry of Women & Child development also runs shelter based homes, such as Short Stay-Homes, swadhar Homes for women in difficult circumstances including trafficked victims.