

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2953

ANSWERED ON:11.12.2012

CHILD ABUSE

Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to enact any law to check child abuse in the country;
- (b) if so, the time by which the said law is likely to be enacted; and
- (c) if not, the manner in which the Government ensures that such incidents are checked?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) to (c): The Government has already enacted a special law "The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012" to protect children from sexual abuse. The Act has come into force with effect from 14th November, 2012 along with the rules framed thereunder.

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 Government of India deeply concerned with the welfare of children and through various schemes and advisories to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, augments the efforts of the States/UTs.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has recently issued an Advisory on missing children on 31st January, 2012 wherein the States/UTs have been advised on various measures needed to prevent trafficking and trace the children. These includes computerization of records, DNA profiling, involvement of NGOs and other organizations, community awareness programmes etc. to facilitate the tracing of missing children.

In a separate detailed advisory dated 14th July, 2010 sent by the Central Government to all States/UTs wherein they 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 identified 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.