

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:119  
ANSWERED ON:22.02.2013  
IMMORAL TRAFFIC PREVENTION ACT  
Ajay Kumar SHRI ;Mcleod Smt. Ingrid

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act. 1956;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has set up any panel/committee to suggest amendments to the said Act;
- (d) if so the details thereof alongwith the recommendations made by the said panel/ committee and the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent re-victimisation of victims of child trafficking?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. The Government proposes to amend the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. For this purpose, the Ministry constituted an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development and consisting of representatives from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice , Delhi Police, National Commission for Women (NCW), National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW) and three Delhi based Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) to suggest on the required amendments in the Act.

The IMG discussed the various provisions of ITPA and recommendations made by various organizations and submitted a report to the Ministry. Based on the suggestions given by the IMG, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has prepared a cabinet note proposing amendments to the ITPA 1956 with a view to making the provisions unambiguous, contemporary, enforceable and appropriately stringent, and compatible with the UN Conventions and Protocols.

(e): The Government is already taking a number of measures to combat trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation and preventing re-victimization of child victims in the country. The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 supplemented by the Indian Penal Code prohibits trafficking in human beings, including children, for the purpose of prostitution and lays down procedures. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing "Ujjawala" Scheme wherein financial assistance is provided for prevention of trafficking and for rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

Also, Swadhar Shelter Homes provide care and protection to women in difficult circumstances including trafficked victims. In these institutions, services are provided in victim friendly manner. This Ministry implements the centrally sponsored Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) since 2009-10 for providing a safe and secure environment for overall development of children who are in need of care and protection, and children in conflict with law. The various components of the scheme also include rescue and rehabilitation of children in difficult circumstances, which includes trafficked and sexually exploited children. Further, the Ministry has issued various guidelines and manuals for law enforcement agencies on rescue protocols, social workers for psychosocial interventions, judicial handbooks etc. to prevent re-victimization of child victims. In addition, the Ministry of Women and Child Development continuously conducts advocacy, awareness generation, and sensitization programmes for prevention of trafficking of women and children.