

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:76
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN
Das Shri Ram Sundar;Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni

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

- (a) whether the Government has issued any advisory to the States/UTs on measures to be taken for combating trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Supreme Court has constituted a panel to suggest measures for the rehabilitation of sex workers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon and the present status thereof; and
- (e) the other measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 76 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01ST MARCH, 2013 ASKED BY SHRI KAPIL MUNI KARWARIYA AND SHRI RAM SUNDER DAS REGARDING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

(a) Yes Madam. The Government of India has been advising the State Governments from time to time for improving the enforcement mechanism for combating trafficking of women and children

(b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development issued an Advisory to States/UTs on 12.10.2011, emphasizing on, inter alia, gender sensitization of the police personnel, minimizing delays in investigations of crime against women, setting up 'Crime against Women Cells' in districts where these do not exist; adopting a victim centric approach in human trafficking cases, creating Special Juvenile Police Units, and conducting regular meetings of the State Advisory Committees for preventing and combating trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in consultation with Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) also issued various advisories to States/UTs on measures needed for preventing and combating crime of human trafficking e.g. Advisory on preventing and combating human trafficking in India (9th September 2009), Advisory on Missing children (31st January 2012), Advisory to treat human trafficking as organized crime, (30th April 2012) and Advisory on preventing and combatting human trafficking – dealing with foreign national (1st May 2012).

(c) Yes Madam.

(d) In connection with the Criminal Appeal No. 135 of 2010 in the case of Buddhadev Karmaskar vs. State of West Bengal, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, vide its order dated 19/07/2011, constituted a Panel under the Chairmanship of Shri Pradip Ghosh, Senior Advocate, to advise the Court in matters of

- (i) Prevention of trafficking,
- (ii) Rehabilitation of sex workers who wish to leave sex work, and
- (iii) Conditions conducive for sex workers who wish to continue working as sex workers with dignity. The other Members of the Panel are:

- i. Mr. Jayant Bhushan, Senior Counsel.
- ii. Usha Multipurpose Co-operative Society through its President/Secretary.
- iii. Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee through its President/ Secretary.
- iv. Roshni through Ms. Salma Hasan 152, Golf Links, New Delhi
- v. Shri Ravi Kant, Shakti Vahini, New Delhi

vi. Ms Preeti Patkar, Prerna, Mumbai

vii. Ms Indumati, South India AIDS Action Programme, Chennai

viii. Shri Tariq Khan, Social Activist, Lucknow

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has provided the office space along with equipment and personnel for functioning of the Panel and sanctioned Rs 10 lakhs for the purpose. So far, the Panel has submitted eleven interim reports to the Hon'ble Court.

(e) The Government has adopted a multi-pronged approach to Prevent and Combat Trafficking of women and children for Commercial Sexual Exploitation. The Ministry of Women and Child Development administers the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (ITPA). The Ministry is also implementing "Ujjawala"- a Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation, Re-Integration and Repatriation of Victims of Trafficking for Commercial Sexual Exploitation. As on date, 228 projects have been supported under the Scheme, including 117 protective and rehabilitative homes. Trafficked victims are also given shelter and support services in Short Stay Homes and Swadhar Homes meant for women in difficult circumstances. Besides, the Ministry is implementing 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.

The Ministry of Home Affairs is implementing a comprehensive Scheme for establishment of integrated Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) and capacity building of responders, including Training of Trainers for strengthening the law enforcement response to human trafficking. So far 160 Anti Human Trafficking Units have been established.