

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1213
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013
SALE OF MINOR CHILDREN
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the number of minor boys and girls sold by their families in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to curb such instances?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): As per information provided by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the data on number of minor boys and girls sold by their families are not maintained centrally. However, data on buying and selling of girls for prostitution as maintained by NCRB is given in Annexure.

The Indian Penal Code (IPC) contains several provisions for dealing with these types of crimes, which areas follows:

Section 317 IPC - Exposure & Abandonment (Crime against children by parents or others to expose or to leave them with the intention of abandonment)

Section 366-A IPC - Procurement of minor girls (for inducement to force or seduce to illicit intercourse)

Section 372 IPC - Selling of girls for prostitution

Section 373 IPC - Buying of girls for prostitution

As per Seventh Schedule, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Constitution, and as such, the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes, including crimes against children, lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

A detailed advisory dated 14th July, 2010 has been sent by the Central Government to all State Governments and UT Administrations wherein States/UTs have been advised to vigorously enforce all the existing legislations relating to crime against children.

In a separate advisory on Advisory on missing children-measures needed to prevent trafficking and trace the children-regarding dated 31st January, 2012, it was specifically advised to the States / UTs to prevent children from being victims of any heinous or organized crime such as, victims of rape, sexual abuse, child pornography, organ trade etc.