

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:286

ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013

MISSING CHILDREN

Chaudhary Shri Arvind Kumar;Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar;Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Putul Kumari Smt. ;Singh Shri Uday Pratap;Toppo Shri Joseph

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of missing/kidnapping of children are on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the total number of such cases reported, children traced/untraced, gender-wise, kidnappers/touts arrested and gangs busted along with the action taken against them, separately during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Supreme Court has recently expressed displeasure over the delay in filing a status report on the issue of missing children;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the details of advisories issued by the Government to the States in this regard and the other corrective steps taken by the Government to address the issue?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per information provided by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), data regarding missing, traced and untraced children for the years 2009, 2010 and 2011 respectively is given in Annexure I and data on kidnapped children for the years 2009-11 is given in Annexure II

(c) & (d): On 17th January, 2013, while hearing a Writ Petition on 'Missing Children' a three Judge Bench headed by the Chief Justice of India directed personal appearance of Chief Secretaries of some States. However on date on next appearance on 5th February, 2013 three Chief Secretaries did not appear before the Hon'ble Court seeking personal exemption. The Hon'ble Court took exception to this fact and directed the Chief Secretaries to personally appear before them and file the status report on 'Missing Children'.

As per 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, Government of India is 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.

(e) Ministry of Home Affairs has issued a detailed advisory on missing children-measures needed to Prevent Trafficking and Trace the Children¹ regarding dated 31st January, 2012, wherein 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. States / UTs were also 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.

Ministry of Home Affairs has issued an Advisory dated 30th April, 2011 to provide guidelines to law enforcement agencies on the manner and modalities regarding effectively dealing with the organized crime aspect of human trafficking (Annexure-IV).

Ministry of Home Affairs has issued another Advisory on missing children dated 29th October, 2012 wherein the States / UTs were requested to become a part of a country wide online database on Missing Children named 'Track CHILD' which has already become operational.

An advisory based on the Supreme Court Judgment directing all State Governments | UT Administrations to appoint one Child Juvenile Officers at each police Station in State has also been circulated on 02.12.2011. (Annexure-III). Directions to set up Special Juvenile Police Units in respective districts in the country have been issued.

Advisory on crime against children dated 14th July, 2010 to all State Governments and UTs Administrations wherein States/UTs 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.