GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1323 ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013 REPORT ON MISSING CHILDREN Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Lingam Shri P.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the J.S. Verma Committee has in its report expressed serious concern over the increasing number of children who went missing every year;and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (b) Justice J. S. Verma Committee did express its concern on issue of missing children and has specifically recommended that district administration under supervision of High Court should prepare a report on missing children in every district and register a First Information Report (FIR). The High court shall monitor investigation of all these cases.

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

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. The advisory also envisages 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 also circulated a comprehensive Performa to States / UTs on missing children for better analysis of data on missing and found children.

Ministry of Women and Child Development in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs is developing a National Portal for tracking of 'missing' and 'found' children. The project envisages creating an exclusive website for tracking of missing and found children. It is designed to have two parts as 'Missing' and 'Found' section where every particular details of the missing / found children; like physical attributes, place of missing / recovery, special identification marks etc. will be stored in database. The special software along with search engine, which is being developed, can match the identical parameters within its database to facilitate identification of recovered children.

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. 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.