

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3250

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2017

Crime by Juveniles

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

- (a) whether crime committed by juveniles have been steadily rising across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) whether there is inadequacy in juvenile care and protection schemes of Government, as is reflected in the pathetic condition of observation homes and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether hardened criminals are forming juvenile gangs to take advantages of loopholes in Juvenile Justice Act;
- (e) if so, whether there have been regular incidents of escaping of inmates from Observation Homes in different parts of the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (f) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) According to National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs, a decrease of 13.3% (from 38,565 cases in 2014 to 33,433 cases in 2015) during 2014 over 2015 and an increase of 1.1% (from 33,433 cases in 2015 to 33,810* cases in 2016*) during 2015 over 2016* were registered against juvenile in conflict with law, in which 48,230 juveniles in 2014, 41,385 juveniles in 2015 and 41,861* juveniles in 2016* were apprehended in the country. (* As reported by NCRB, data for the year 2016 is provisional as data is under clarification)

(b): As reported by National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), State/UT-wise and crime head-wise cases registered and juvenile apprehended during 2014-2016* is enclosed as Annexure-I & II respectively.

(c): The Central Government is executing Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) to implement the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, (JJ Act, 2015), in which State Governments/UT Administrations have major role to play. The Government of India has enacted the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, (JJ Act, 2015) which has come into effect from 15th January, 2016 repealing the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000. The Ministry has been requesting the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time to identify and register all CCLs under relevant provisions of JJ Act and set up functional inspection and other Committees to ensure that children in all the CCLs receive the best of care, and are not subject to any kind of abuse and neglect.

(d): No such case has come to the notice of the Ministry.

(e): As reported by National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), the Commission had suo-moto taken cognizance of a news published in the 'Times Nations' dated 03.02.2015 and deputed the officials to visit Observation Home, Meerut (Uttar Pradesh) for investigating the situation, including the possible causes and factors responsible for fleeing of the inmates from the Meerut Home. It was observed that poor infrastructure and lack of adequate staff would have been reasons of children fleeing.

Another complaint received by NCPCR from Punjab was regarding escaping of four Children from Observation Home, Shimlapuri (Ludhiana), Punjab, on 03.05.2015. A report was sought from Deputy Collector, Ludhiana. The report stated that due to repair and renovation work of toilet in the building, the children could have escaped by scaling the roof along with lapses on the part of security guards. After departmental inquiry, two security guards were suspended.

(f): Under ICS, there is a provision of counselor in Observation Home. These counselors are there for providing counseling services to children in conflict with law and children in need of care and