

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 11.08.2011
ANSWERED ON
CHILD SEX TRADE AMONG BANCHRA TRIBE .

1386

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA

Will the Minister of COAL, COAL, PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether information of the issue of child sex trade across India is updated;
- (b) whether the report to probe case of child sex trade among Banchra tribe in Madhya Pradesh has been completed;
- (c) the preventive measures adopted to curb the practice; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

(SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a): A comprehensive study on 'Girls and Women in Prostitution in India' conducted in 2004, which was sponsored by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, had estimated that there were about 2.8 million prostitutes in the country of which 36% are children.

(b): As per the information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the probe has been conducted and completed.

(c) & (d): To eradicate the traditional practice of prostitution among the Banchra tribe, the Government of Madhya Pradesh is implementing a scheme named 'Jabli' under which children of girls involved in prostitution are rehabilitated through education. Other measures taken by the State Government include involving the Non Government Organizations to monitor the situation of human trafficking from the tribe, formation of Anti Human Trafficking Units and provision of shelter and other basic amenities to the children rescued by the police.

The Government of India is also taking a number of measures to prevent and combat trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation in the country. The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 supplemented by the Indian Penal Code prohibits trafficking in human beings, including children and lays down penalties for trafficking. A Comprehensive Advisory on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking in India has been issued on 09.09.2009 by the Government of India to all States/ Union Territories. Further, the Ministry has been implementing the "Ujjawala" Scheme, under which financial assistance is being provided, inter alia, for prevention of trafficking through formation of community vigilance groups/adolescence groups, holding sensitization and awareness generation workshops and preparing awareness generation material.