

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3672
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2025

BAL VIVAH MUKT BHARAT CAMPAIGN

3672. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH:
SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL:

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

- (a) the specific budget allocation for the Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat Campaign within the Ministry's budget for Financial Year 2025-26;
- (b) the number of FIRs registered under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 in the last five years, and percentage have resulted in convictions;
- (c) the number of cases of child marriage that have been reported through the Child Marriage Free Bharat Portal since its launch and action taken in response to these reported cases; and
- (d) the present staff strength of Child Marriage Prohibition Officers (CMPOs) across the country and the vacancies the State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

(a): 'Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat' campaign launched on 27th November 2024 by the Government focuses on making the country child marriage free. It is one of the most important imperatives to promote education, skilling, enterprise and entrepreneurship among girls and women to realise the vision of a 'Viksit Bharat' through 'whole of government' and 'whole of society' approach. Funding support to States and UTs for 'Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat' campaign/ IEC is already available under the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)' and 'Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW)' components of Mission Shakti.

(b) and (c): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes the data on the number of cases of child marriage registered under The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA), 2006 in its publication 'Crime in India'. The said report is available upto the year 2022 – Crime Head-Wise and State/ UT-wise. As per information available with NCRB, the number of cases registered under PCMA during the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 are 501, 523, 785, 1050 and 1002 respectively. The percentage of convictions under PCMA during the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 are 23.8, 12.0, 16.7, 9.7 and 11.0 percent respectively.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens, investigation and prosecution of crime against women and children including prohibition of child marriages, rests with the respective State Governments and UT Administrations; they are competent to deal with such offenses/ criminal acts.

As on 28.03.2025, there are a total of 21 complaints registered on the Child Marriage Free Bharat portal. In respect of 8 cases reported on the portal, appropriate action has already been taken.

(d): Section 16 of the PCMA authorises the State Government to appoint for the whole State, or such part thereof as may be specified, an officer or officers to be known as the 'Child Marriage Prohibition Officers (CMPO)' having jurisdiction over the area or areas specified in the notification. This section also specifies the functions to be discharged by CMPOs, which include preventing solemnisation of child marriages by taking such action as they may deem fit; to collect evidence for the effective prosecution of persons contravening the provisions of the Act; to advise the individuals or counsel the residents of the locality not to indulge in promoting, helping, aiding or allowing the solemnisation of child marriages; to create awareness about the ill effects of child marriages; and to sensitize the community on the issue of child marriages. The CMPOs function under the direct administrative control and supervision of respective State Governments and UT Administrations. As such, implementation of the provisions of the Act lies with them. The data of CMPOs of respective States and UTs as reported is at **Annexure**.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 3672 FOR ANSWER ON 02.04.2025 ASKED SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH AND SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL 'BAL VIVAH MUKT BHARAT CAMPAIGN'

Number of Child Marriage Prohibition Officers (CMPOs) (as per the latest information available with the Ministry)

S. No.	State/UT	No of Districts	No. of CMPOs at Present	Level upto which CMPOs are Designated
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3	06	5 Child Development Project Officers and 1 Superintendent
2.	Andhra Pradesh	26	16590	Designated from Village/ Ward level to District levels, District Magistrate at district level.
3.	Assam	35	2002	District Child Protection Officers (DCPO) designated as CMPOs at District Level, Gram Panchayat Secretaries designated as CMPOs in Panchayat Level and Lot Mandals under VCDC are designated as CMPO in Six Schedule Areas.
4.	Bihar	38	101	Sub-Division
5.	Chandigarh	1	3	Sub-Divisional Magistrate
6.	Chhattisgarh	33	259	District/ ICDS Project (Block)
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	3	4	Mamlatdar/ Executive Magistrate
8.	Delhi	11	33	SDM
9.	Gujrat	33	33	Gazetted Officer Class II
10.	Haryana	22	22	District level
11.	Himachal Pradesh	12	78	Block Level
12.	Jharkhand	24	6833	Gram Panchayat level (Panchayat Sachiv)
13.	Karnataka	31	58522	Gram Panchayat
14.	Ladakh - UT	2	13	Child development Project Officers Sub-Divisional Officers
15.	Madhya Pradesh	52	1104	District Collectors; Chief Executive Officers, District Panchayat; Sub Divisional Officer, Revenue (SDM). Chief Executive officer, Janpad Panchayat; Project officers, women, and child Development
16.	Maharashtra	36	25562	Upto Gram Panchayat Level
17.	Meghalaya	12	12	Deputy Commissioner
18.	Mizoram	11	*	All District Probation Officers (DPOs) and Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) upto Block level

19.	Nagaland	16	11	District level – District Child Protection Officers
20.	Odisha	30	*	All Panchayat Executive Officers (PEOs) of Gram Panchayats, Wardens/ Matrons of Residential Hostels under the ST & SC Development, Minorities & Backward Classes Welfare Department and School & Mass Education Department
21.	Puducherry	4	4	District Level
22.	Punjab	23	102	All the Sub-Division Magistrate designated as CMPOs
23.	Rajasthan	33	1378	All Sub- divisional Magistrates, Tehsildar, Deputy Director and Assistant Director of WCD Department, District Probation officer, Assistant Director (DCPU), Child Development project Officers, Social Security officers upto Block level.
24.	Tamil Nadu	38	39	District Level
25.	Telangana	33	13759	Upto village level
26.	Tripura	8	23	SDM
27.	Uttar Pradesh	75	75	District Level
28.	Uttarakhand	13	715	DPOs
29.	West Bengal	23	23	District Social Welfare Officers

* Number of CMPOs not confirmed.
