GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2168

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 31ST JULY, 2018/SHRAVANA 9, 1940 (SAKA)

TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN

†2168. SHRI RAJESH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether children are being trafficked/smuggled from various parts of the country to be sold to bangle-making factories situated in Jaipur, Ajmer and otherparts of the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to set such children free from these factories by conducting a survey of children and adults engaged in bangle-making factories across the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) to (c): No such data on selling of trafficked children to bangle making factories is maintained by National Crime Records Bureau.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The primary responsibility of preventing human trafficking and forced labour etc. lies with the respective State Governments.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has, from time to time, issued various advisories to States and UTs on prevention of human trafficking, which prescribe various measures that may be adopted by the States and other agencies for rescuing trafficked child labourers and the action which may be taken against the traffickers/employers etc. Last such advisory was issued on 12.8.2013. These advisories are available on MHA's website www.mha.gov.in.

As per Section 2 (14) (ix) of Juvenile Justice Act 2015, a child who has been trafficked is considered to be a Child in Need and Care of Protection (CNCP). This act is administered by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, who is also implementing a centrally sponsored Child Protection Services Scheme (CPS) for the improvement in well being of children in difficult circumstances. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to State Governments/UT administration for, inter-alia, undertaking situational analysis of children in difficult circumstances and for setting up and maintenance of various types of Child Care Institutions (CCIs).

The Ministry of Labour & Employment has enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 which came into force w.e.f 1.9.2016. The Amendment Act, inter alia, provides for complete prohibition on employment or work of children below 14 years and also prohibits employment of adolescents (14-18 years) in hazardous occupations and processes.
