

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UN STARRED QUESTION NO. 554
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2018

INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION

554. DR. KAMBHAMPATI HARIBABU:
SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government plans to sign Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction that makes inter-country abduction of children by parents a punishable offence, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether India plans to have a domestic law in place before joining the treaty, if so, the details thereof indicating the existing legal provisions related to international child abduction;
- (c) whether there has been a steady rise in parental abductions, if so, the details thereof indicating the number of cases registered in India w.r.t. international child abduction during the last three years, State/ UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has decided to put in place an internal mechanism to redress all such complaints from women who have run away from a violent marriage and returned to India with her children and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is setting up a panel headed by the chairperson of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in this regard, if so, the details thereof indicating the role of the Commission therein; and
- (f) whether a Committee has been set up under Justice Rajesh Bindal to examine the issue suggested against joining the Hague convention and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)

- (a) & (b) No such decision has been taken .
- (c) The Ministry of Women and Child Development does not have such information.
- (d) No specific provision for the women who have run away from a violent marriage and returned to India with her children, has been made. However, Integrated Nodal Agency(INA) has been constituted in the Ministry of Women and Child Development for NRI marital disputes.
- (e) The Ministry has in-principle decided to establish a Mediation Cell under the Chairpersonship of Chairperson, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) to resolve the cases of children who were taken away by one of the spouse without permission of the other spouse due to marital discord or due to domestic violence, etc from other countries to India or vice versa and preparing a parental plan taking into account best interest of child.
- (f) The Committee was constituted to examine the different aspects involved in the issue. The committee has submitted its report which is available at www.wcd.nic.in.
