

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3644**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16TH JULY, 2019/ ASHADHA 25, 1941 (SAKA)

KIDNAPPING AND TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN

†3644. SHRI RAJAN VICHARE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether trafficking of women and girls is being carried out in the country on large scale and after kidnapping they are being sold in the gulf countries by antisocial elements;**
- (b) if so, the number of such cases reported during the last three years, State/ UT-wise;**
- (c) the action taken by the Government against the culprits considering the gravity of such incidents; and**
- (d) the efforts being made by the Government to bring back the kidnapped women and children in the country?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

(a) & (b): Such specific data is not maintained by the National Crime Records Bureau.

(c) & (d): To address the issue of victims of such cross-border trafficking, the Government has taken several initiatives:

- i) India has signed bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Prevention of Human Trafficking with United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 25.1.2017. This MoU aims to enhance bilateral cooperation on the issue of prevention, rescue, recovery and repatriation related to human trafficking, especially women and children.**

- ii) India has ratified the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime (UNCTOC) in 2011 and its Protocols namely (a) Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children and (b) Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air.**
- iii) In order to promote the welfare and protection of women workers, the Ministry of External Affairs has taken measures to restrict the recruitment of Emigration Check Required (ECR) passport holding Indian female workers only through seven State Government recruiting agencies w.e.f. 2nd August, 2016 to avoid their harassment by foreign employers. The Foreign Employers who intend to recruit Indian female domestic workers directly, have to register themselves on e-Migrate System with the respective Missions and deposit a bank guarantee equivalent to US\$2500/-. The age restriction of 30 years has been made mandatory in respect of all women emigrants emigrating on ECR passport, irrespective of the nature/category of employment. Further, mandatory insurance and medical cover is extended to all Indian workers including women, through Pravasi Bhartiya Bima Yojana (PBBY) who go through e-Migrate after clearance. Also, the Missions are proactive in providing medical and**

legal support to distressed Indian women workers and take all possible measures, using Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) for their speedy repatriation to India. ICWF guidelines have been further revised with effect from September 2017 to make them more broad based and expand the scope of welfare measures that can be extended through the fund. These revisions are expected to provide flexibility in swiftly addressing to requests for assistance by overseas Indian nationals, including distressed women. The Mission houses such women workers at its premises as they await completion of their repatriation process by the Deportation Centre.

- iv) MHA has issued various advisories to the States and UTs from time to time on preventing and combating human trafficking. These advisories are available at MHA's website: www.mha.gov.in.**

- v) MHA has provided financial assistance to all States for setting up Anti Human Trafficking Units and 332 Anti Human Trafficking Units have been set up in various districts.**
