

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2291**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14TH MARCH, 2023/ PHALGUNA 23, 1944 (SAKA)

MISSING CHILDREN

2291. SHRIMATI SANGEETA AZAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the number of missing children is increasing year by year in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of missing children, State-wise;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to tackle the problem;

(d) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to rehabilitate such child victims of human trafficking, if so, the details thereof along with the number of children who become victim of human trafficking so far; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to stop such cases in future?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)**

(a) & (b) : National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes statistical data on crimes in its publication "Crime in India". The published reports are available until year 2021. The State/UT-wise details of number of children (below 18 years) missing and traced in the country during the years 2019-21 is at Annexure-I. Data published by NCRB does not show this trend.

(c): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility of maintaining law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including investigation and prosecution of crime against citizens including children rest with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws.

However, Ministry of Women and Child Development has issued an 'Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for cases of missing children' to assist Police, child Welfare Committees and Juvenile Justice Board in dealing with the cases of missing and found or recovered children. The objective of the SOP is to put in place guidelines while dealing with cases of missing children and to work in coordination with the concerned stakeholders and respond with urgency to issues of missing child.

For providing outreach services to missing children and needy children, the Ministry of Women and Child Development operates Child Helpline No. 1098, which is operational 24/7. Apart from this, Railway Child lines at major railway platforms are also being operated to provide assistance to any needy child. The Ministry of Women and Child Development has also developed the 'Khoya-Paya' portal in 2015, which is an enabling platform, where citizens can report missing children as well as sightings of their whereabouts without losing much time.

Ministry of Women and Child Development has also initiated the “TrackChild Portal”, which enables tracking of the missing and found children. Under this, logins have been provided to the Police Stations, Juvenile Justice Boards and Child Care Institutions whereby they are required to update the information, on the portal, about missing and found children regularly.

(d) The Ministry of Women & Child Development is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme namely Mission Vatsalya Scheme (erstwhile Child Protection Services (CPS) Scheme) under which support is provided to States and UT Governments for delivering services for children in need and in difficult circumstances. The Child Care Institutions (CCIs) established under the scheme support inter-alia age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, health care and counseling. State-UT wise child victims (below 18 years) trafficked & rescued during 2019-21 are at Annexure-II.

(e) Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments and UTs by undertaking various initiatives and measures in this regard. MHA has provided financial assistance to the tune of Rs 98.86 crores under “Nirbhaya Fund” to all States and UTs during the financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21 for strengthening the existing Anti

Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) and for establishing new AHTUs covering all districts of the States and UTs. MHA also provides financial assistance to States and UTs for holding “Judicial Colloquiums” and “State level conferences” on periodic basis for sensitizing judicial and police officials and to make available to them updated information on latest provisions of law relating to human trafficking. MHA has also been issuing advisories and guidelines to States on preventing and countering the crime of human trafficking. These advisories are available on MHA’s website at: <https://www.mha.gov.in>.

ANNEXURE-I REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) AND (B) OF THE LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 2291 FOR ANSWER ON 14.03.2023 ASKED BY SHRIMATI SANGEETA AZAD REGARDING MISSING CHILDREN.

The State/UT-wise details of number of children (below 18 years) missing and traced in the country during the year 2019-21

SL	State/UT	2019		2020		2021	
		Missing	Traced	Missing	Traced	Missing	Traced
1	Andhra Pradesh	2746	2737	2745	2658	3720	3589
2	Arunachal Pradesh	44	41	13	13	44	20
3	Assam	1410	1389	877	1232	1161	1116
4	Bihar	7299	5208	4868	4773	4578	5269
5	Chhattisgarh	3143	2872	2459	2530	3278	3019
6	Goa	31	25	15	22	13	14
7	Gujarat	1439	1354	1204	1208	1395	1490
8	Haryana	2815	2610	1904	2047	2343	2137
9	Himachal Pradesh	393	429	288	293	444	456
10	Jharkhand	356	517	340	481	400	371
11	Karnataka	835	832	1085	1056	1575	1550
12	Kerala	2183	2195	1505	1517	1609	1638
13	Madhya Pradesh	11022	11256	8751	9944	11607	12486
14	Maharashtra	4562	4322	3356	4804	4129	4311
15	Manipur	112	109	51	57	63	50
16	Meghalaya	104	116	44	58	66	71
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	37	44	21	27	26	25
19	Odisha	3151	1490	2899	3641	4133	4596
20	Punjab	894	792	655	537	1045	720
21	Rajasthan	3655	3626	3179	3015	4936	4940
22	Sikkim	38	38	11	13	8	8
23	Tamil Nadu	4519	4263	4591	4373	6399	6301
24	Telangana	3308	3911	3100	2978	3956	4079
25	Tripura	169	149	127	121	153	161
26	Uttar Pradesh	3184	3872	2380	2831	3522	2764
27	Uttarakhand	539	440	399	701	626	679
28	West Bengal	8952	8526	7648	7937	9996	9045
	TOTAL STATE(S)	66940	63163	54515	58867	71225	70905
29	A&N Islands	43	43	21	24	25	27
30	Chandigarh	202	172	153	153	180	181
31	D&N Haveli and Daman &	20	16	3	10	19	22
32	Delhi	6355	5880	4299	5292	5772	5408
33	Jammu & Kashmir	277	260	230	183	279	24a
34	Ladakh	-	-	1	1	0	3
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	48	40	40	43	35	41
	TOTAL UT(S)	6945	6411	4747	5706	6310	5922
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	73885	69574	59262	64573	77535	76827

Source: Crime in India

Note: '+' Combined data of erstwhile D&N Haveli UT and Daman & Diu UT for 2019.

*' Data of erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir State including Ladakh for 2019.

ANNEXURE-II REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 2291 FOR ANSWER ON 14.03.2023 ASKED BY SHRIMATI SANGEETA AZAD REGARDING MISSING CHILDREN.

The State/UT-wise details of number of children (below 18 years) trafficked and rescued in the country during the year 2019-21

SL	State/UT	Child Trafficked Victims			Child Rescued Victims		
		2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
1	Andhra Pradesh	18	23	58	15	8	11
2	Arunachal Pradesh	4	13	3	3	13	3
3	Assam	80	84	215	73	67	188
4	Bihar	294	123	311	294	123	311
5	Chhattisgarh	113	35	43	112	39	43
6	Goa	2	1	0	2	1	0
7	Gujarat	2	65	5	2	65	5
8	Haryana	6	7	21	6	7	21
9	Himachal Pradesh	1	2	4	1	2	4
10	Jharkhand	172	114	146	102	77	145
11	Karnataka	42	2	5	42	1	5
12	Kerala	177	184	219	179	179	169
13	Madhya Pradesh	123	79	87	124	75	87
14	Maharashtra	95	49	52	95	65	62
15	Manipur	5	4	4	4	4	4
16	Meghalaya	30	1	1	29	1	1
17	Mizoram	25	0	0	25	0	0
18	Nagaland	2	0	0	2	0	0
19	Odisha	202	159	497	202	159	399
20	Punjab	9	65	11	18	61	8
21	Rajasthan	653	815	417	653	815	417
22	Sikkim	0	2	0	0	2	0
23	Tamil Nadu	43	24	16	42	23	38
24	Telangana	71	32	222	71	31	222
25	Tripura	1	2	0	2	2	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	32	61	40	32	58	40
27	Uttarakhand	16	9	9	16	8	9
28	West Bengal	108	53	50	63	56	58
	TOTAL STATE(S)	2326	2008	2436	2209	1942	2250
29	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	1	3	2	1	3	2
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu +	0	2	0	0	2	0
32	Delhi UT	536	202	437	536	202	437
33	Jammu & Kashmir *	0	2	2	0	2	2
34	Ladakh	-	0	0	-	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	5	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	537	214	441	537	209	441
	TOTAL {ALL INDIA}	2863	2222	2877	2746	2151	2691

Note: Human Trafficking data published is based on annual data as provided by States/UTs from their **Anti Human Trafficking Units** + ' Combined data of erstwhile D&N Haveli UT and Daman & Diu UT for the year 2019 *' Data of erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir State including Ladakh for the year 2019.