

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2654**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.03.2020

**MISSING CHILDREN**

2654. SHRI SHIVAKUMAR C. UDASI:

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

- (a) whether the cases of missing children in the country has increased, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has identified the reasons behind such increase and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Supreme Court has directed State Governments to trace missing children and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the case of missing children and human trafficking are inter-connected and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken by the Government to prevent such cases in future?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b): As per information provided by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), total number of missing children in the country, State/UT-wise during 2016-2018 (below 18 years) is **Annexed**. Some of the reasons behind the cases of missing children could be kidnapping, abduction, trafficking, illegal adoption, run away children and due to natural calamities as reported by NCRB.

(c): As informed by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), pursuant to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of WP (C) 75/2012, MHA has issued detailed advisory on 25.06.2013 to the States and UTs in which it was inter-alia stated that in case of complaint with regard to any missing children made in a police station, the same should be reduced into a First Information Report and appropriate steps should be taken to see that follow up investigation is taken up immediately thereafter, etc.

The Hon'ble Court had also directed that the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR) may be asked to monitor the implementation of Standard Operating Procedure by the State Governments for rescuing and restoring missing children.

(d): As informed by MHA, causes for missing children would vary on case to case basis including trafficking.

(e): As informed by MHA, 'Police' is a State subject under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibilities to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including children rests with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. However, the Government of India accords highest priority to the safety of children in the country. In addition to the Advisory mentioned in reply to part (c) of the question, MHA has issued other advisories from time to time including advisories on 25.09.2013 and 30.10.2018 on 'measures to be taken in cases of missing adolescent girls' requesting States/UTs to give greater focus on the cases relating to missing adolescent girls and make timely interventions to protect these girls from falling prey to any social abuse and organised crimes; and measures to be taken in cases of kidnapping of minors respectively.

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**State/UT-wise Report on Missing and Traced Children (Below 18 years) during 2016-2018.**

SL	State/UT	2016		2017		2018	
		Missing	Traced	Missing	Traced	Missing	Traced
1	Andhra Pradesh	3324	1912	3616	2902	3150	2610
2	Arunachal Pradesh	61	33	74	48	34	32
3	Assam	2413	1069	1651	1170	2120	1461
4	Bihar	5896	3026	8493	3271	12072	6967
5	Chhattisgarh	3127	2051	3341	2267	4237	2920
6	Goa	57	25	45	14	47	16
7	Gujarat	2007	1247	2172	1653	2417	1873
8	Haryana	3575	1695	3814	2217	3739	2576
9	Himachal Pradesh	280	174	368	271	481	340
10	Jammu & Kashmir	1070	354	725	219	800	416
11	Jharkhand	1008	329	1099	465	993	377
12	Karnataka	4224	2733	3195	1954	2864	2314
13	Kerala	1735	1520	1755	1595	2153	2002
14	Madhya Pradesh	12068	8197	14116	8834	15320	9284
15	Maharashtra	9982	4357	8581	3364	6928	3214
16	Manipur	186	172	97	75	107	82
17	Meghalaya	184	155	148	103	163	119
18	Mizoram	0	0	1	1	3	3
19	Nagaland	77	63	103	101	97	81
20	Odisha	5791	589	7446	6281	3491	1139
21	Punjab	1290	510	2724	872	2587	638
22	Rajasthan	4203	3216	3403	2453	3521	2479
23	Sikkim	150	110	88	85	57	52
24	Tamil Nadu	5801	4660	5844	4782	5333	4038
25	Telangana	4700	3597	4304	2984	4410	3152
26	Tripura	197	171	166	150	198	188
27	Uttar Pradesh	5169	1861	5161	2763	5704	2799
28	Uttarakhand	859	589	877	572	938	374
29	West Bengal	16881	5388	19671	11849	16027	10205
	<b>TOTAL STATE(S)</b>	<b>96315</b>	<b>49803</b>	<b>103078</b>	<b>63315</b>	<b>99991</b>	<b>61751</b>
30	A&N Islands	53	48	43	35	56	44
31	Chandigarh	435	152	513	207	540	214
32	D&N Haveli	8	2	8	4	4	0
33	Daman & Diu	39	27	34	29	30	17
34	Delhi	14661	5863	15252	6807	14986	9102
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	58	49	43	43	49	48
	<b>TOTAL UT(S)</b>	<b>15254</b>	<b>6141</b>	<b>15893</b>	<b>7125</b>	<b>15665</b>	<b>9425</b>
	<b>TOTAL (ALL INDIA)</b>	<b>111569</b>	<b>55944</b>	<b>118971</b>	<b>70440</b>	<b>115656</b>	<b>71176</b>

Source: Crime in India

Note: Clarifications are pending from West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya & Sikkim for the year 2018