

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3708**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17TH MARCH, 2020/PHALGUNA 27, 1941 (SAKA)

MISSING CHILDREN

**3708. SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE:
MS. PRATIMA BHOUMIK:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of children reported missing at present, State-wise;**
- (b) the number of children rescued and restored to their families during the last three years, year-wise;**
- (c) the reasons for poor performance in this regard; and**
- (d) the efforts made by the Government so far for restoration of all the missing children to their families?**

ANSWER

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

(a)& (b): National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes information on crimes in its publication "Crime in India". Published reports are available till the year 2018. The State/Union Territory -wise details of total number of children reported missing in the country during the year 2018 is at Annexure-I. Further, a total of 55,944 missing children were traced in the year 2016, a total of 70,440 missing children were traced in year 2017 and a total of 71,176 missing children were traced in year 2018.

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(c) & (d): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects 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 investigation and prosecution of crime against children rest with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws.

However, the Ministry of Home Affairs has issued detailed advisory to the States and UTs, inter-alia emphasizing 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. This advisory is available at www.mha.gov.in.

The Ministry of Women & Child Development in order to provide outreach services to the missing children or needy children, operates Child helpline No. 1098 which is operational 24x7. The Ministry of Women & Child Development also supports Railway Childlines on major Railway Stations for providing assistance to any needy child. Further, the Ministry of Women & Child Development has developed a national tracking system for missing and vulnerable children i.e. TrackChild Portal which has been implemented across

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the country. The URL of the TrackChild is www.trackthemissingchild.gov.in. The Ministry of Women & Child Development had also launched Khoya-Paya platform on 2nd June, 2015 which is an enabling platform, where citizens can report missing children as well as sightings of their whereabouts. Details of children who have been found, can also be reported on this platform. Khoya-Paya has been integrated as a module under TrackChild.

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for tracing missing children has also been circulated to all the States and UTs for their further dissemination to all other stakeholders such as Police, Child Welfare Committees, Juvenile Justice Boards etc. The SOP lays down uniform guidelines for expediting the search and rehabilitation of missing children all over the country.

ANNEXURE-I
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State/Union Territory-wise total number of Missing Children (Below 18 years) during the year 2018

SL	State/UT	2018
		Missing
1	Andhra Pradesh	3150
2	Arunachal Pradesh	34
3	Assam	2120
4	Bihar	12072
5	Chhattisgarh	4237
6	Goa	47
7	Gujarat	2417
8	Haryana	3739
9	Himachal Pradesh	481
10	Jammu & Kashmir*	800
11	Jharkhand	993
12	Karnataka	2864
13	Kerala	2153
14	Madhya Pradesh	15320
15	Maharashtra	6928
16	Manipur	107
17	Meghalaya	163
18	Mizoram	3
19	Nagaland	97
20	Odisha	3491
21	Punjab	2587
22	Rajasthan	3521
23	Sikkim	57
24	Tamil Nadu	5333
25	Telangana	4410
26	Tripura	198
27	Uttar Pradesh	5704
28	Uttarakhand	938
29	West Bengal	16027
	TOTAL STATE(S)	99991
30	A&N Islands	56
31	Chandigarh	540
32	D&N Haveli**	4
33	Daman & Diu**	30
34	Delhi	14986
35	Lakshadweep	0
36	Puducherry	49
	TOTAL UT(S)	15665
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	115656

Source: Crime in India

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

*Now UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Laddakh

** Now UTs of D&N Haveli and UT of Daman& Diu have merged as one UT