

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5309**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 05TH APRIL, 2022/ CHAITRA 15, 1944 (SAKA)

MISSING CHILDREN

5309. DR. TALARI RANGAIAH:

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;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of missing children, State-wise; and**
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to tackle the problem?**

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 till the year 2020. The State/ UT-wise number of missing children (below 18 years) during the years 2018-2020 are at Annexure. 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 responsibilities to maintain 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.

Ministry of Women and Child Development has issued the '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 Childlines 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 a national tracking system for missing and vulnerable children namely TrackChild portal, which has been implemented across the country. It also launched 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 & Child Development is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme i.e. Child Protection Services Scheme through the State Governments/UT Administrations on pre-defined cost sharing financial pattern. The objective of the Scheme is to assist States/UTs in providing the safety net

as envisaged under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Rules there-under, to support the children in difficult circumstances. It also aims at reduction of vulnerabilities to situation and actions that lead to abuse, neglect, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children from parents.

Annexure**State/UT-wise Number of Missing Children (Below 18 years) during 2018-2020**

SI	State/UT	2018	2019	2020
1	Andhra Pradesh	3150	3286	3294
2	Arunachal Pradesh	34	46	18
3	Assam	2120	2067	1562
4	Bihar	12072	12404	12064
5	Chhattisgarh	4237	4460	4047
6	Goa	47	62	52
7	Gujarat	2417	1983	1833
8	Haryana	3739	3978	3272
9	Himachal Pradesh	481	534	393
10	Jharkhand	993	972	795
11	Karnataka	2864	1385	1638
12	Kerala	2153	2335	1645
13	Madhya Pradesh	15320	17058	14553
14	Maharashtra	6928	8276	7310
15	Manipur	107	137	79
16	Meghalaya	163	148	76
17	Mizoram	3	0	0
18	Nagaland	97	53	30
19	Odisha	3491	5503	6912
20	Punjab	2587	2843	2706
21	Rajasthan	3521	4697	4250
22	Sikkim	57	43	16
23	Tamil Nadu	5333	5814	6142
24	Telangana	4410	4566	3755
25	Tripura	198	179	157
26	Uttar Pradesh	5704	6089	4597
27	Uttarakhand	938	1103	1062
28	West Bengal	16027	14774	14071
	TOTAL STATE(S)	99191	104795	96329
29	A&N Islands	56	55	33
30	Chandigarh	540	528	509
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu+	34	37	24
32	Delhi	14986	12239	10658
33	Jammu & Kashmir*	800	661	627
34	Ladakh	-	-	5
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	49	49	49
	TOTAL UT(S)	16465	13569	11905
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	115656	118364	108234

Source: Crime in India

Note : '+' Combined data of erstwhile D&N Haveli UT and Daman & Diu UT during 2018 & 2019

*' Data of erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir State including Ladakh during 2018 & 2019

