GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.347 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH JULY, 2016/ASHADHA 28, 1938 (SAKA)

TRAFFICKING OF TRIBAL WOMEN

347. DR. K. GOPAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that the prevalence of trafficking of tribal women to big cities to engage them illegally as maid servants, bonded labourers or into sex trade have increased during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether many non-governmental organizations have brought out the increasing prevalence of such trends across India before the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has no record of such cases of trafficking; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) & (b): Instances of cases of trafficking are noticed through media now and then even after its abolition by law. Government of India is sensitized to preventing such incidents through strengthening the implementation mechanism of law enforcement responses.

(c) & (d) The Government of India does not rely on unsubstantiated

research studies or indices prepared by private organizations.

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(e) to (f): Data of such cases of human trafficking is not maintained specifically. However, the data of human trafficking is maintained under Section 370 & 370 A IPC, procuration of minor girls (Section 366A IPC), importation of girls from foreign country (Section 366B IPC), selling of minors for prostitution (Section 372 IPC), buying of minors for prostitution (Section 373 IPC) and the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act.

'Public Order' and 'Police' as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India are State subjects and as such detection, registration, investigation and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, Government of India has taken various steps to combat human trafficking and has adopted a multi-pronged approach alongwith concerned Ministries and stakeholders, as detailed below:-

(i) Enactment of Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, wherein Section 370 of the Indian Penal Code has been substituted with Section 370 and 370A of IPC which provide for comprehensive measures to counter the menace of Human Trafficking.

(ii) Establishment of Anti Human Trafficking Units(AHTUs) in 259 districts of the country.

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(iii) Issued following advisories on Human Trafficking to all States/UTs:

• Advisory for preventing crime of human trafficking dated 9.9.2009.

 Advisory on missing children – measures needed to prevent trafficking and trace the children - dated 31.1.2012

• Advisory on Human Trafficking as Organised Crime dated 30.4. 2012.

•Advisory on Preventing and combating human trafficking in Indiadealing with foreign nationals dated 1.5. 2012

• Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) to handle trafficking of children for child labour dated 12.8.2013

These advisories are available at <u>www.mha.gov.in</u>.

(iv) Organization of periodic meetings with Nodal Officers of AHTUs and concerned Ministries to review the efforts taken to combat Human Trafficking.

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