

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.480
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2022

CHILDREN FORCED TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES DURING LOCKDOWN

480. SMT. KANTA KARDAM :

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that many children were forced to leave their homes for illegal child labour, smuggling and forced marriage during lockdown;
- (b) the State-wise number of the children kidnapped in various States, especially in Uttar Pradesh, during the lockdown period and normal period respectively; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Central Government to prevent child-smuggling and forced labour?

ANSWER

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

(a) : As per information received from National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), no such cases / reports regarding children forced to leave their homes for illegal child labour, smuggling and forced marriage during lockdown have come to the notice.

(b) : The State/UT-wise number of complaints relating to "Child kidnapping" received in NCPCR during the lockdown period and normal period respectively i.e. 2020-21, 2021-22 and the current year 2022-23 (till 30.06.2022) including from Uttar Pradesh is at Annexure-I.

(c) : The JJ Act, 2015 provides penal provisions for offences committed against the children, which includes employment of child for using of child for vending, peddling, carrying supplying or smuggling any intoxicating liquor, narcotic drug or psychotropic substance (under sections 77 & 78 of JJ Act 2015); and exploitation of a child employee (under section 79 of JJ Act 2015).

The JJ Act, 2015 has empowered the Child Welfare Committee to decide on matters relating to children in need of care and protection in the best interest of child. Under Section 27 of JJ Act, 2015, the State Government shall constitute one or more Child Welfare Committees for every district, for exercising the powers and to discharge the duties in relation to children in need of care and protection under the Act.

Ministry of Women and Child Development is supporting a Child Helpline as mandated under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. Childline Services is defined under section 2(25) of the Act as a twenty-four hours emergency outreach service for children in crisis which links them to emergency or long-term care and rehabilitation service. At present, Childline is operational in 603 districts/locations and 138 Railway Stations in the country.

Further, a number of projects/ initiatives have also been undertaken under Nirbhaya Fund for strengthening the surveillance system for prevention of crimes against women and children. 330 Stations have been covered under the project of 'Integrated Emergency Response Management System (IERMS) for installing CCTVs and monitoring rooms at Railway Stations. All 67 Stations have been commissioned under the project of 'Provision of Video Surveillance System' at Konkan Railway Stations. 696 AHTUs are functional in districts of States & UTs ' under the project for 'Setting up/ strengthening Anti-Human Trafficking Units.

ANNEXURE - I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) TO THE RAJYA SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.480 FOR ANSWER ON 20.07.2022 ASKED BY SMT. KANTA KARDAM REGARDING 'CHILDREN FORCED TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES DURING LOCKDOWN'

STATE/UT-WISE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RELATING TO "CHILD KIDNAPPING" RECEIVED IN NCPDR DURING THE LOCKDOWN PERIOD AND NORMAL PERIOD RESPECTIVELY I.E. 2020-21, 2021-22 AND THE CURRENT YEAR 2022-23 (TILL 30.06.2022) INCLUDING FROM UTTAR PRADESH

S. No.	States/UTs	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	1	1
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
4	Assam	0	0	0
5	Bihar	20	13	7
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	1	0	0
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0	0	0
9	Delhi	10	5	2
10	Goa	0	0	0
11	Gujarat	1	0	0
12	Haryana	10	16	1
13	Himachal Pradesh	1	0	0
14	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0
15	Jharkhand	1	1	0
16	Karnataka	1	0	0
17	Kerala	0	0	0
18	Ladakh	0	0	0
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	6	5	1
21	Maharashtra	2	3	0
22	Manipur	0	0	0
23	Meghalaya	0	0	0
24	Mizoram	0	0	0
25	Nagaland	0	0	0
26	Orissa	1	1	0
27	Puducherry	0	0	0
28	Punjab	2	5	0
29	Rajasthan	14	7	2
30	Sikkim	0	0	0
31	Tamil Nadu	0	2	0
32	Telangana	2	0	0
33	Tripura	2	0	0
34	Uttar Pradesh	209	190	64
35	Uttarakhand	2	0	0
36	West Bengal	2	3	0
	Total	287	252	78
