

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:256

ANSWERED ON:27.02.2007

MISSING CHILDREN

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Athawale Shri Ramdas; Chinta Mohan Dr. ; Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo; Mane Smt. Nivedita; Masood Shri Rasheed; Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan); Sujatha Smt. C.S.; Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to a study, every year approximately 45,000 children are reported to be missing in the country out of which 11,000 remain to be untraced;
- (b) if so, the facts and the reaction of the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Union Government has requested to the State/UT Governments to send details of missing children;
- (d) if so, the details of the information received so far from States/UTs;
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any enquiry to know the reasons for failure to trace such children;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the situation expeditiously?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO H. GAVIT)

(a) & (b): As per the crime statistics compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for the years 2003 and 2004, the number of murder cases registered in Chennai and Kolkata cities have declined in 2004 from 2003; remained static in Delhi at 401 and showed slight increase in Mumbai from 242 in 2003 to 253 in 2004. In respect of cases of rape registered during the aforesaid period, while the numbers have declined in Chennai and Kolkata; there has been increase in Delhi from 406 in 2003 to 457 in 2004 and in Mumbai from 133 in 2003 to 187 in 2004.

(c) & (d): Under the seventh schedule to the Constitution of India, the 'Police' and 'Public Order' are state subjects and as such, it is the responsibility of the State Governments and UT administrations to take necessary steps to effectively implement the provisions of various laws concerning women in order to prevent crimes against women. However, the Union Government has from time to time issued advisories to all the State Governments and UT Administrations to make concerted efforts to improve the administration of Criminal Justice System and to take effective measures to control crimes against all vulnerable sections of the society, including women.

The steps taken by Delhi Police to prevent rape cases include establishment of Crime against Women Cells; setting up of Rape Crises Intervention Centres in all the nine Police Districts; association of Women Police Officers and NGO in investigation of rape cases; setting up three Special Courts headed by women judges; networking with Non-Governmental Organisations; deployment of staff in plain clothes at vulnerable places; starting of dedicated telephone help lines; and constitution of 'Women Mobile Team' to attend to distress calls from women on round-the-clock basis; providing counseling through the NGO to the needy complainant; seeking help of NGOs and professionals such as social workers, doctors, psychologists, lawyers and special counselors during the investigation of rape cases; association of NGOs to assist the victims during medical examination and for counselling, treatment, rehabilitation, Self-Defence training programme and the recently launched scheme ' Parivartan ' under which lady beat constables have been deployed in selected slum areas.