

we share it with the States concerned. Only recently we shared an input with the coastal States in western India. About a month or so ago, we shared an input with Tamil Nadu. But let me assure you that, in my judgement, Tamil Nadu police has taken effective action. They have strengthened coastal security; they have set up coastal police stations; they have set up coastal check-points and they have coastal patrolling. Based on the intelligence inputs that are shared with them, they are taking effective action to protect the coast of Tamil Nadu from terrorists.

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Sir, I really appreciate the Government's intention to issue smart cards. But I am afraid that it may be non-starter. This scheme includes nine maritime States in which Maharashtra is included. If you see the coastal line of Maharashtra, you observe that there are many unauthorised foreign nationals who have now started residing there. They are also getting into fishery business. Unless the Government flushes them out, Identity Cards should not be issued. If you issue Identity Cards before verifying their identity and nationality, tomorrow they will claim nationality. It will be a big threat in future. Is there any mechanism by which, before issuing the Identity Card, you identify unauthorised foreign nationals who are residing there for some years?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the National Population Register, which is concomitant to the census, records usual residence in India. Now when we gather data, that database will be available to various user agencies including the State Government. The State Governments can certainly take action to identify anyone who is an illegal immigrant. Although there is great merit in what the hon. Member says, at this stage we are concerned with issuing MNIC to usual residents. States can certainly take action on the basis of database to identify anyone who is an illegal immigrant to India.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Sir, Tamil Nadu has one of the longest coastal areas and Tamil Nadu fishermen are the worst affected by indiscriminate shoot-outs, arrest and torture by Sri Lankan forces mistaking their identity. My question is: Will the hon. Minister give priority in issuing identity Cards to Tamil Nadu fishermen?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, as I said, the Application Card for fishermen will be an additional card which will be in addition to MNIC. This scheme is being implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Fisheries with the support of Ministry of Home Affairs. I am sure as soon as the MNIC is issued in coastal villages, the Application Cards will also be issued to fishermen in those villages.

भारत में मानव तस्करी

*65. श्री प्रभात झा :††

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाल आपटे :

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार संयुक्त राज्य अमरीका द्वारा जारी उस रिपोर्ट से सहमत है जिसमें यह आरोप लगाया गया है कि भारत मानव तस्करी का एक बहुत बड़ा अड्डा बन गया है तथा यहां मानव तस्करी रोकने के लिए तैयार किए गए न्यूनतम मानकों का भी पालन नहीं किया जा रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है;

(ग) विगत तीन वर्षों के दौरान मानव तस्करी से संबंधित तथ्या तथा आंकड़े क्या हैं; और

†† सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री प्रभात झा द्वारा पूछा गया।

(घ) मानव तस्करी को रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या-क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं?

गृह मंत्री (श्री पी. चिदम्बरम): (क) से (घ) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा गया है।

विवरण

(क) और (ख) भारत में मानव तस्करी सरकार के लिए गंभीर चिंता का विषय है। भारत सरकार ने इस अपराध से समग्र रूप से निपटने के लिए गंभीर प्रयास किए हैं जिनमें शामिल हैं इस समस्या के सामाजिक-आर्थिक आयामों का समाधान करने और तस्करी की आपराधिक गतिविधि के संबंध में विभिन्न विधायन और अभिसमय प्रवर्तित करना। परन्तु, भारत सरकार यू एस कांग्रेस द्वारा निर्धारित अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करने के लिए यू एस स्टेट डिपार्टमेंट की रिपोर्ट का संज्ञान नहीं लेती है। यह यू एस कांग्रेस तथा यू एस सरकार का आन्तरिक मसला है।

(ग) वर्ष 2005-2007 के दौरान मानव अवैध व्यापार से संबंधित अपराध-शीर्षों के तहत दर्ज मामलों के राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र-वार ब्यौरे अनुपत्र में दिए गए हैं। [देखिए परिशिष्ट 217 अनुपत्र संख्या 8] राष्ट्रीय अपराध रिकॉर्ड ब्यूरो (एन सी आर बी) द्वारा संकलित आंकड़ों के अनुसार, मानव अवैध व्यापार से संबंधित कानूनों के विभिन्न प्रावधानों के तहत विगत तीन वर्षों 2005, 2006 और 2007 के दौरान सूचित मामलों की संख्या क्रमशः 6402, 5096 और 4087 थी।

(घ) केन्द्र सरकार ने सभी राज्य सरकारों को समग्र रूप से अवैध व्यापार से संबंधित अपराध से निपटने तथा कानून तोड़ने वालों के विरुद्ध कठोर कार्रवाई करने के अलावा पीड़ितों के बचाव, राहत और पुनर्वास को सम्मिलित करके एक प्रभावी और व्यापक रणनीति तैयार करने की सलाह दी है।

"पुलिस" और "लोक व्यवस्था" राज्य के विषय हैं तथा मानव अवैध व्यापार के अपराध के निवारण और उसे रोकने के लिए मुख्यतया राज्य सरकारें जिम्मेवार होती हैं। तथापि, केन्द्रीय सरकार ने महिलाओं एवं बच्चों के व्यापारिक यौन उत्पीड़न के अवैध व्यापार को रोकने हेतु विभिन्न पहलें शुरू की हैं जिनमें अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ शामिल हैं-

1. गृह मंत्रालय ने राज्य सरकारों/केन्द्र शासित क्षेत्र प्रशासनों और अन्य संबंधित मंत्रालयों इत्यादि के बीच मानव के अवैध व्यापार से संबंधित मामलों को समन्वित करने के लिए एक नोडल सैल की स्थापना की है। इस संबंध में सभी राज्य/संघ शासित क्षेत्र सरकारों को दिनांक 5 जुलाई, 2006 को एक सलाह भी जारी कर दी गई है।

2. पुलिस अनुसंधान और विकास ब्यूरो (बी पी आर एंड डी) ने पुलिस प्रशिक्षण संस्थानों में प्रयोग हेतु "अन्वेषकों हेतु मानव अवैध व्यापार पुस्तिका" पर एक प्रशिक्षण नियमावली तैयार की है। बी पी आर एंड डी महिलाओं के बचाव और सुरक्षा के प्रति पुलिस कार्मिकों को सुग्राही बनाने हेतु क्षेत्रीय अवैध-व्यापार विरोधी कार्यशालाओं का आयोजन कर रही है। ऐसी विभिन्न कार्यशालाएं आज तक विभिन्न शहरों में आयोजित की गई हैं।

3. "मानव तस्करी के विरुद्ध प्रशिक्षण एवं क्षमता निर्माण के जरिए भारत विधि प्रवर्तन अनुक्रिया को सुदृढ़ करना" पर एक परियोजना भारत सरकार और युनाइटेड नेशन्स आफिस आन ड्रग्स एण्ड क्राइम तथा भारत सरकार की संयुक्त पहल के रूप में गृह मंत्रालय में शुरू की गई है। इस परियोजना के आन्ध्र प्रदेश, बिहार, गोवा, महाराष्ट्र और पश्चिम बंगाल नामक पांच राज्यों में काफी सकारात्मक परिणाम रहे जहां इसे कार्यान्वित किया गया है और मानव तस्करी रोधी यूनिट माडल खास रूप से प्रभावी रहा।

4. वेश्यावृत्ति हेतु महिलाओं एवं बच्चों के अवैध व्यापार के निवारण और रोकने पर दक्षिण एशियाई क्षेत्रीय सहयोग संघ (सार्क) सम्मेलन के कार्यान्वयन हेतु एक क्षेत्रीय कार्यबल की स्थापना की गई है। तथा मानक परिचालन प्रक्रिया (एस ओ पी) सार्क सदस्य राज्यों से अनुमोदित हो गई है।

5. महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय में सचिव, एम डब्ल्यू सी डी की अध्यक्षता में अनैतिक व्यापार (निवारण) अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन पर एक केन्द्रीय सलाहकारी समिति का गठन किया गया है जिसके प्रतिनिधि राज्यों, केन्द्रीय संगठनों तथा एनजीओ से होते हैं तथा तिमाही बैठकें आयोजित की जाती हैं।

6. एम डब्ल्यू सी डी के अतिरिक्त विकट परिस्थितियों में महिलाओं हेतु आश्रय घर जैसे कि शॉर्ट स्टे होम (300 से अधिक), स्वाधर होम (200 के लगभग) भी चलाए जाते हैं। इनमें अवैध व्यापार से बचाई गई अथवा वेश्यालयों या अन्य स्थानों से भगाई गई औरतें/लड़कियां रहती हैं तथा यौन अपराध की पीड़ित महिलाएं/लड़कियां जो या तो परिवार द्वारा अस्वीकार कर दी गई हैं या विभिन्न कारणों से निजी परिवारों में वापिस नहीं जाना चाहती, को रखा जाता है।

7. विशिष्ट घरों और बचाव लागत, परामर्श चिकित्सा सुविधा, कानूनी सहायता इत्यादि प्रावधानों की स्थापना के साथ व्यापारिक यौन उत्पीड़न गतिविधियों और बचाव एवं पुनर्वास हेतु अवैध व्यापार के निवारण के लिए उज्ज्वला नाम की एक नई योजना प्रारम्भ की गई है।

8. अवैध व्यापार (निवारण) अधिनियम, 1956 का दायरा बढ़ाने के लिए, तस्करों को उजागर करने और उनके दण्ड को और अधिक कठोर बनाने के लिए महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय ने नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ पब्लिक को-आपरेशन एण्ड चाइल्ड डिवलपमेंट (एन आई पी सी डी) और यूनीसेफ के सहयोग से स्टेक होल्डर्स तथा अन्यो के लिए "जुडीसियल हैण्ड बुक आन कम्बैटिंग आफ वीमेन एण्ड चिल्ड्रन फार कामर्सियल सेक्सुअल एक्सप्लोइटेशन" कई मैनुअल तैयार किए हैं और प्रशिक्षण दिया जा रहा है।

Human Trafficking in India

† *65. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:††

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agrees with the report issued by United States of America in which it has been alleged that India has become a large bastion of human trafficking and even minimum standards prescribed for checking human trafficking are not being followed;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the facts and data relating to human trafficking during the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to check human trafficking?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Human Trafficking in India is a cause of serious concern to the Government. Government of India has made sincere efforts to deal with the crime in a holistic manner, which includes enforcement of various legislations and conventions related to criminal activity of trafficking

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Prabhat Jha.

as well as tackling the socio-economic dimension of the problem. But, Government of India does not take cognizance of a report made by the US State Department to meet the requirements laid down by the US Congress. This is an internal matter between the US Government and US Congress.

(c) State/UT-wise details of the cases relating to human trafficking during 2005-2007 is given at Annexure [See Appendix 217 Annexure No. 8] (See below). As per the statistics compiled by the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), the number of cases reported during 2005, 2006 & 2007 under various provisions of laws relating to human trafficking were 6402, 5096 & 4087, respectively.

(d) The Union Government has advised all the State Governments to deal with the crime of trafficking in a holistic manner and to evolve an effective and comprehensive strategy encompassing rescue, relief and rehabilitation of victims besides taking deterrent action against the law violators.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects and the State Governments are primarily responsible for preventing and combating the crime of human trafficking. However, the Central Government has taken several initiatives for combating trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation, which, *inter-alia*, include:

1. The Ministry of Home Affairs has set up a Nodal Cell to coordinate, matters relating to trafficking in human beings between the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and other related Ministries etc. The nodal cell is holding regular review meetings with the nodal officers of the States regarding the action being taken by the State Governments in this regard. MHA has also issued an advisory dated 5th July, 2006 to all the State/Union Territory Governments in this regard.

2. The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has prepared a training manual on "Human Trafficking Handbook for Investigators" for use in the Police Training Institutes. BPR&D is organizing regional antitrafficking workshops for sensitizing police personnel towards the safety and security of women. Several such workshops have been held in various cities till date.

3. A Project on "Strengthening law enforcement response in India against trafficking in persons through training and capacity building" has been taken up in the Ministry of Home Affairs as a joint initiative of the Government of India and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The project has had very positive outcomes in the five States where it has been implemented *i.e.*, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Maharashtra and West Bengal, and the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit model has been particularly effective.

4. A Regional Task Force has been set up for implementation of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution and Standard Operation Procedures(SOP) for preventing and combating trafficking in women and children for prostitution, has been got approved from the SAARC Member States.

5. In the Ministry of Women and Child Development a Central Advisory Committee (CAC) on implementation of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act (ITP) has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, MWCD, which has representatives from States as well as Central Organizations and NGOs etc. which holds quarterly meetings.

6. Besides the MWCD also runs Shelter homes, such as Short Stay Homes (more than 300) Swadhar Homes (about 220) for women in difficult circumstances. These cater to trafficked women/girls rescued or runaway from brothels or other places, and also provides for women/girls victims of sexual crimes who are disowned by family or who do not want to go back to respective family for various reasons.

7. A new scheme for prevention of trafficking by the name UJJAWALA has been launched by Ministry of Women and Child Development, for preventive activities and for rescue and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation with the setting up of special homes and provision of rescue cost, counseling, medical care, legal aid, etc.

8. There are several amendments proposed by Ministry of Women and Child Development, in the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 to widen its scope, focus on traffickers and make punishments more stringent for them. Further the Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with the National Institute of Public Co-operation and Child Development (NIPCCD) and UNICEF has developed several manuals for training of stakeholders such as 'Judicial Handbook on Combating Trafficking of Women and Children for Commercial Sexual Exploitation' and others, and training is being imparted.

श्री प्रभात झा : सभापति महोदय, जिस आशय का प्रश्न मैंने पूछा है उसी आशय का तारांकित प्रश्न 21 अगस्त, 2007 को श्री किशन भाई पटेल और श्री सुग्रीव सिंह ने पूछा था। इसी तरह का प्रश्न श्री कलराज मिश्र ने 22 अगस्त, 2007 को और श्री अजीत जोगी जी ने 14 अगस्त, 2007 को पूछा था। हो सकता है कि उस समय श्री पी. चिदम्बरम जी गृह मंत्री नहीं थे, वह वित्त मंत्री थे। मंत्री बदल गए हैं, लेकिन प्रश्न का उत्तर वही का वही है कि, यह राज्य से संबंधित विषय है। अमरीकी विदेश मंत्री श्रीमती हिलेरी क्लिंटन ने अमेरिका की जो रिपोर्ट जारी की है, 2009 Trafficking in Persons. उसके बारे में कहा गया है, it is a matter of America. यह अमेरिका का इंटरनल मैटर है, इस पर हमें कुछ नहीं कहना है। लेकिन बदनामी किसकी हो रही है, बदनामी भारत की हो रही है, पूरे जगत में हो रही है और यह रिपोर्ट सब जगह जारी है। इसलिए हम इस बात से सहमत नहीं हैं कि हमें इसका संज्ञान नहीं लेना चाहिए। महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि मध्य यूरोप और अमेरिका में कितने हजार महिलाएं और पुरुष नौकरी करने जा रहे हैं या अपनी देह का व्यापार करने जा रहे हैं, कृपया इस प्रश्न का उत्तर दें?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I cannot stop an American Government's agency submitting a report to the American Congress. We do not take cognisance of that report. And, I do not see any reason why we should feel that we have been defamed? In the Tier II Watch List, along with India, there are 52 other countries. They have included China, Russia, Argentina, Egypt, Pakistan, Sri

Lanka and Bangladesh. So, I do not think we need to attach too much importance. Nevertheless, the problem is a problem in India; human trafficking is indeed a problem in India. We should address it in our own self-interest and we are addressing it. I have set out the various measures that we are taking to address the problem of human trafficking. We should do it as an enlightened nation, not because somebody else points it out to us.

श्री प्रभात झा : आपने कहा है कि अमेरिका का संज्ञान नहीं लेना चाहिए। आपके सीबीआई के डायरेक्टर, अश्विनी कुमार और होम सैक्रेटरी, मिस्टर मधुकर गुप्ता, इन्होंने कहा है कि गरीबी, अविकसित और बेरोजगारी के कारण तथा जो योजनाएं बनाई जा रहीं हैं, इन सबके कारण हम यह सब भुगत रहे हैं। क्या आपने इसकी कोई व्यवस्था की है? आपने सार्क के दक्षिण सम्मेलन में भी एक कमेटी नोडल एजेंसी बनाई थी। वह नोडल एजेंसी क्या कर रही है, हम यह जानना चाहते हैं?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, unless you allow me to read the whole answer again, the answer runs to two pages where we have set out every single measure that we have taken in the last few years. I have set out what the Ministry of Women and Child Development is doing. We have set out what the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development is doing. We have set up a regional task force for the implementation of SAARC Convention.

Now, let us come to the core of the problem. What is the core of the problem? The core of the problem is that the overwhelming majority of human trafficking cases are concerned with women for the purpose of immoral trafficking. That is the core of the problem. In fact, over 95 per cent of cases registered, chargesheeted, person arrested, convicted in what is called human trafficking are concerned with immoral trafficking for the purpose of flesh trade. That is the real problem, and, therefore, States have to address the problem of crime of using unsuspecting poor girls, poor women for the purpose of immoral trafficking. That has to be addressed by the State Governments. We will help. But, this is a problem which the State Governments must take seriously and take action.

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Sir, the assertion of the Government that they do not take cognisance of a report made in the U.S. is very pleasant to hear when normally, we see that the Government is very sensitive to the U.S. judgement about us and goes out apologising to them for things that did not...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question, please.

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Therefore, I do compliment the Minister for this that they will not be influenced by what the U.S. tells us about us, but will come to their own conclusion. The information which such a report gives, like knowledge, is usable and should be used and my question is : in so far as the trafficking within the country is concerned, has the Government taken any steps to curb trafficking through the means of marriage? We have centres where this is being done on a large scale, when people from Arab countries come to Miraz, to Aurangabad, to Nanded, marry girls and take them away, and in the same manner, in several other centres in this country, people hunt for brides and they purchase women for the purposes of marriage. This is a trafficking of

the worst kind. May I know from the Minister whether the Government is taking any active steps to stop this?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, every case of human trafficking that is reported, every case of missing girl that is reported, I am sure, the State police registers an FIR, or, ought to register an FIR, and, investigate. I cannot make a judgement, where a girl has been brought from a State for the purpose of marriage, whether that is human trafficking or genuine marriage. But if a case of abduction or kidnapping or forcibly taking away the girl is brought to the notice of the police, I would expect that the police would register the case and investigate.

In fact, we have a large number of cases registered, persons arrested, investigated and punished. Now, this could be only a sample of a much larger problem. In fact, I suspect that it is only a small part of a much larger problem. But, unless a case is registered or an FIR is filed, it will be difficult to make a judgement whether a case of marriage is a genuine marriage or is it a case of a bride-buying for the purpose of trafficking.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, several Government studies have made it very clear that one of the determinants for the increase of trafficking, particularly, of women and children, relates to the increased poverty. Because of this, a very comprehensive report was given to the Government of India some years ago, which had been coordinated by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. It made a series of recommendations taking into account various dimensions of this horrible crime in which the vulnerability of the poor women and children is being exploited. The Minister in his reply has said that this is a State problem. To a certain extent, it may be so, as far as the issue of law and order is concerned. It has been identified that the major obstacle in preventing human trafficking in India is the lack of a specific legislation to deal with human trafficking. At present, various definitions of human trafficking which are there, are not in harmony with each other. If you look, we have different laws, one is the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act; second is the Child Marriage Restraint Act. So, what has been recommended is a comprehensive legislation which will harmonise the definitions of human trafficking in accordance with international protocols, which India has ratified. Would the Home Minister kindly inform the House as to whether the Government, considering the recommendations which have been made, seriously try to bring out such a specific legislation?

Sir, the second aspect is that since it is a cross-border trafficking also, another important recommendation was made concerning bilateral agreements with SAARC countries to prevent human trafficking. Both of these are important recommendations. Would the Government of India give us, at least, a timeframe in which these recommendations can be implemented?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I have already mentioned as to what we are doing under the SAARC Convention. As far as amending the Act is concerned, I am informed that after taking note of the present Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, the Child Marriage Restraint Act, and, some other

Acts, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is piloting amendments to the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act to make it more stringent for traffickers and more victim-friendly.

We have, in the Ministry of Home Affairs, set up an Anti Trafficking Nodal Cell, and, we are working on a plan of action for drafting an integrated national plan of action. A national consultation on that plan was held. The National Crime Records Bureau has added a new chapter, 'Human Trafficking Statistics', and, what we intend to do is to help States set up, in each District, an Anti-Human Trafficking Cell, bring in various stakeholders in order to sensitize the State police at the District level to act against human trafficking. We have ratified the SAARC Convention on Prevention and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children. Decisions taken in the SAARC meeting ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, I asked a specific question. The Parliamentary Standing Committee went through the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act. What we have said is that it does not cover the different dimensions of human trafficking. So, we recommended a specific legislation.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: That should be raised when the Bill is introduced. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: No. I am saying. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us not get into a discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, this is the only country in the world which does not have a specific legislation against human trafficking.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put a specific question.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, my specific question is, a specific legislation against human trafficking. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. Ms. Karat, please resume your place.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is piloting amendments to the Bill. If that amending Bill is unsatisfactory or found wanting, hon. Members can surely debate it at that time and amend the Bill in whatever manner the House thinks it appropriate, and the Minister will respond. All I am pointing out is that Bill is being amended and amendments are being piloted by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Sir, the data supplied in the reply is very useful. From the given data, we could find that the four very advanced States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, are reporting more number of immoral trafficking cases. But, actually, the report says that it is decreasing. The reason is that the police is not ready to register cases of missing persons. Therefore, the figures are coming down. Different NGOs, which have studied such cases, are giving some other figure which is an enlarged one.

This crime is more serious than drug trafficking. A human being is trafficked for many purposes.

It can be sexual also. Many parts of human bodies are also taken away for organ transplantation. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is having a proposal to bring a concept of federal crime, so that crime investigation can be done at the national level and people can be protected. It is not just across the States. It is across the countries also.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, under the division of powers given in the Constitution, there is, as yet, no definition of a federal crime. All crimes can be and must be investigated by the State Governments unless, of course, the case is transferred to the CBI and, more recently, to the NIA. That is the division of powers under the Constitution as I understand. We have not yet agreed on amending the Constitution to create the concept of a federal crime.

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर : माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि मानव तस्करी में महिलाओं और बालकों की तस्करी का प्रतिशत कितना है और किन राज्यों में यह ज्यादा है, जहाँ से तस्करी हो रही है? राज्य सरकारों द्वारा जो उपाय किए जा रहे हैं, क्या गृह मंत्री जी उन उपायों से संतुष्ट हैं या वे इसके बारे में कोई और कठोर कदम उठाने का विचार रखते हैं?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the bulk of crimes falling under human trafficking relate to crimes under the Immoral Traffic Act. So, it is really involving women and young girls. If you take year 2007 for which comprehensive data are available, the total number of cases registered in the year is 4087. Out of that, 3568 relate to the Immoral Traffic Act. Again, out of the total number of 3325 persons convicted, 3220 have been convicted under the Immoral Traffic Act. The overwhelming majority of cases under human trafficking concern women and young girls.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Modernising Police Force

*66. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to modernize police force by equipping it with modern weaponry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) "Police" is a State subject as per VII Schedule to the Constitution. As such, the primary responsibility to adequately equip their police forces with modern weaponry etc. rests with the respective State Governments.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has, however, been supplementing the resources of State Governments for modernization of their police forces under the Scheme for Modernisation of State