

services provided for children in these Homes. The JJ Act and Central Model Rules there-under provide for mechanisms for stringent monitoring of quality of services through Child Welfare Committees and inspection committees set up by the State Government at State, district and city levels. Further, the Rules provide for setting up of Children's Committees in every institution which is, *inter-alia*, also encouraged to report incidents of abuse and exploitation, if any. Besides Rule 60 of the Model Rules framed under the JJ Act prescribes comprehensive measures to respond in case of any kind of abuse, including sexual abuse, neglect and maltreatment is noticed in the CCI.

To ensure that children in all the Homes receive the best of care, and are not subject to abuse and neglect, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has been strongly urging the State Government/UT Administrations from time to time to identify and register all Child Care Institutions (CCI) under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (JJ Act).

Further, with a view to protect children, including children in the Homes, from sexual abuse, the Government has introduced 'The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Bill' in the Parliament in 2011 which provides for stringent punishment for perpetrators of such crimes.

Children in Government Observation Homes

132. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that children are kept in Government observation homes for more than four months in Tamil Nadu, which is against the Juvenile Justice Act, 2000; and

(b) will the Central Government would help the State Government dispose of cases related to children of other nationalities and disabled children at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) Section 14(1) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (JJ Act) mandates the Juvenile Justice Boards (JJB) to complete the enquiry in respect of a child in conflict with law within a period of four months. However, this section also allows the JJBs to extend the period beyond four months in special cases with recorded reasons. Children who have not been released on bail are required to stay in the observation home during the pendency of the enquiry.

As per information furnished by State Government of Tamil Nadu most of the children in conflict with law in the State have been granted bail by the concerned Juvenile Justice Board (JJBs) without any loss of time and, thus, there are only a few children staying in Observation Homes in Tamil Nadu for more than four months.

(b) As per information furnished by State Government of Tamil Nadu, no children of foreign nationality or disabled children have been apprehended by the police in the State of Tamil Nadu, in the recent past.

Sail taking over of Brahmini Steel

*133. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has come forward to take over Brahmini Steel in Cuddapah District of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal forwarded by SAIL;

(c) in what manner, SAIL is planning to go ahead in this regard since Brahmini has not shown any inclination to start the project and also failed to meet the deadline of December, 2009 to commence its operations;

(d) whether any consultations have been held in this regard with the State Government of Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASD VERMA) : (a) to (e) The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has registered its interest with Government of Andhra Pradesh in September, 2011 for acquisition of Brahmini Steel Ltd. and associated mines or any other land bank with iron ore mines in Andhra Pradesh. Future course of action by SAIL will be decided on receipt of response from the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

Sexual Harassment at Work Place

134. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA :

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

(a) whether Government proposes to bring a legislation to stop sexual harassment at work place and abuse of sexual harassment of children; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) and (b) The 'Protection of Women against Sexual Harassment at Workplace Bill, 2010 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 07.12.2010. It seeks to provide protection to women against sexual harassment at all workplaces both in the public and private sector, whether organised or unorganised. It provides for prevention and redressal of complaints of sexual harassment. Women who are employed as well as those who enter the workplace as