

Children of imprisoned illegally migrated parents

145. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that children of imprisoned illegally migrated parents are kept in observation homes and are considered as “juveniles in conflict with law”;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, since the children of illegally migrated parents are to be considered as “children in need of care and protection”;

(c) the number of children in observation homes, whose parents are imprisoned for illegal migration, State-wise; and

(d) whether the Ministry has taken any measures to ensure the protection of children from abuse, while they are deported to their countries of origin, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) and (b) Children of imprisoned illegally migrated parents upto the age of six will be kept with their parents as per the Bangkok protocol and the Supreme Court verdict in R. D. Upadhyaya *V/s* State of Andhra Pradesh. Beyond the age of six, the children would have to be kept in a children home as defined under section 2(e) of the J.J. Act, 2000. Children in the company of illegal migrant parents would also be culpable of violating the Foreigners Act 1946 and the Passport Act 1967 barring the exceptions given under section 82 and 83 of IPC. They would hence be treated as juveniles in conflict with law as defined under section 2(j) of the J.J. Act and not as children in need of care and protection under section 2(d) of J.J. Act, 2000 as they are not covered in the cases enumerated under section 2 (d).

(c) Statistical data of this nature is not centrally maintained.

(d) Children being repatriated to their home country are first counseled as to the process and made aware of the risks involved. They are also counseled as to the basic psychological and social needs to ascertain safety before they are repatriated. Once repatriation process starts, an NGO from the Indian side makes contact with the NGO of the opposite country, and the Government of India also establishes contacts with the counterpart country as to the entire process including the dates of departure and the delivery of the child at the agreed points on the border. At the agreed points, the child is handed over to the representative of the other country in the presence of

NGOs and the representatives of both the Border Guarding Forces. Throughout the journey that the child makes, it is under escort from the representatives of the Police and of the NGO.

Mega city development mission

*146. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided any financial support for the overall development of Chennai under Mega City Development Mission and if so, the details thereof and the financial support extended so far, year-wise;

(b) whether Government is providing financial support to Government of Tamil Nadu for executing various infrastructure development projects under the Chennai Mega City Plan, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the additional financial assistance provided by the Japan International Cooperation Agency for Chennai Mega City Development Mission and Integrated Urban Development Mission?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU):
(a) to (c) No, Sir. The Chennai Mega City Development Mission (CMCDM) is a scheme launched by the State Government of Tamil Nadu in the year 2012. No funding has been provided by the Government of India to this scheme. Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) has also not provided any financial assistance so far to the Chennai Mega City Development Mission, as intimated by the State Government.

Online applications for environmental clearances

*147. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated a system of online applications for environment clearances, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether this has resulted in a push for granting environmental clearances for hazardous industries; and

(c) in what manner Government would balance the need for quick environmental clearance with the important task of environmental protection?