

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to prevent the misuse of portal for child trafficking, extortion, violation of privacy etc.?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) No complaints have been received in the Ministry of Women and Child Development regarding issues related to the portal Khoya-Paya.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To prevent the misuse of portal for child trafficking, extortion, violation of privacy etc., the Ministry of Women and Child Development has ensured that the Khoya-Paya portal is accessible only by registering through mobile phone. To keep a check on the use by the registered users, One Time Password (OTP) is sent to the registered user who logs into the system. To keep a check on the use, a ID proof is mandatory after fifth login.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has developed Terms of acceptance and disclaimer which is also a tool to restrict and prohibit misuse of the portal and uploading false information. All the photographs uploaded on Khoya Paya have been water marked to restrict misuse. The information is published on the Khoya Paya after due scrutiny.

#### **Time-bound measures to curb skewed sex-ratio in Maharashtra**

1437. SHRI D. P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the child sex ratio (CSR) in Maharashtra is alarming, and has been declining over the years;

(b) the reasons for the decline in CSR;

(c) the measures taken to rectify this issue; and

(d) any time-bound measures to curb the skewed ratio?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) and (b) As per Census 2011, the Child Sex Ratio in the State of Maharashtra was 894 against the Child Sex Ratio of 913 in 2001 Census, which shows a declining trend. The reasons behind the declining Child Sex Ratio in the country are primary the socio-cultural mindset having preference for son,

considering girls as burden and preference for small family. Further, easy availability of technology for sex determination tests and abortion services act as a catalyst in the declining Child Sex Ratio.

(c) and (d) Addressing declining Child Sex Ratio is a priority of the Government. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme has been launched to address the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of women empowerment over a life-cycle continuum. It is a tri-ministerial initiative of Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health and Family Welfare and Human Resource Development. This scheme focusses on awareness and advocacy campaign at national level, enforcement of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act and multi-sectoral action in 100 selected districts.

#### **Abuse and neglect of children in juvenile homes**

1438. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the different kinds of juvenile homes in the country, State-wise position thereof;

(b) whether there have been reports of abuse and neglect of the children in such homes and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the above system is monitored by the concerned authorities regularly to ensure that the children do not follow the wrong illegal path after their release in such homes and if so, the details of the feedback?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (JJ Act) provides for setting up of Observation Homes and Special Homes for juveniles during pendency of inquiry and for reception and their rehabilitation. These homes can be established and maintained by the State Government itself or under an agreement with Voluntary Organisation in every district or a group of districts as may be required. The details about number of Observation and Special Homes presently functioning in the country, State/UT-wise being supported under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has reported that it has registered 71 complaints/cases concerning child abuse/sexual exploitation/torture/ill-treatment/disappearance/running away of children/lack of residential facilities and