

Steps taken to curb human trafficking

1682. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of human trafficking cases registered across the country under existing human slavery laws in 2014 and that in 2015; and
- (b) the steps, if any, taken by Government to curb menace of human trafficking in the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) As per data compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), 720 cases of human trafficking were reported under Section 370 and 370A of IPC in the year 2014, and 1021 cases were reported in the year 2015.

(b) As per Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, 'Police' is a State subject and as such registration, investigation and prevention of crime of human trafficking is primarily the responsibility of State Governments concerned. However, the Government of India has taken various steps to combat human trafficking and has adopted a multi-pronged approach to combat human trafficking and has issued several advisories to States/UTs from time to time. The Government of India has besides others taken the following measures/steps to check the menace of human trafficking:

- (i) Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) have been set up at district level in the State Governments.
- (ii) A National Conference on Anti Human Trafficking was convened on 7th October, 2015 which was attended by State Nodal Officers for Anti Human Trafficking and Women & Child Development, key stakeholders and representatives of civil society. This was done with a view to sensitizing all concerned agencies and with a view to make concerted and coordinated efforts to check the menace of human trafficking.
- (iii) A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between India and Bangladesh in June, 2015 on Bilateral Cooperation for Prevention of Human Trafficking in Women and Children, Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Re-integration of Victims of Trafficking. Regular Task Force meetings between India and Bangladesh are convened every year to coordinate matters relating to human trafficking.

Rise in cases of economic offences

1683. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of cases of economic offences in India are on the rise;