

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 958
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2022

STATUS OF TRAFFICKING OF PERSON BILL, 2018

958. SMT MAHUA MAJI:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that it has been four years since the Trafficking of Person Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018 was introduced in Parliament;
- (b) whether the Ministry believes that the current draft still needs revision;
- (c) if so, whether the Ministry is planning for public consultation on the current version; and
- (d) the reasons for delay in tabling it in Parliament for introduction?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): The Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD) introduced "The Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill 2018" in 16th Lok Sabha for consideration during the Monsoon Session of 2018. The Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on 26.07.2018, but could not be considered in the Rajya Sabha due to prorogation of Sixteenth Lok Sabha. The Bill lapsed on dissolution of the 16th Lok Sabha.

(b) to (d): In the light of the discussions in the Lok Sabha during the passing of the Bill, the Bill was re-drafted by the MWCD. The Bill was also examined by a Group of Ministers (GoM) in its meeting held on 10.09.2020, and was further revised. Inter-Ministerial Consultation (IMC) was also held and comments/ suggestions received were suitably incorporated in the draft Bill. Thereafter, the draft Bill was circulated to States and Union Territories and an online consultation was held on 15th July, 2021 with officers of State Governments and UT Administrations. The draft Bill was also posted on the website of the Ministry for seeking comments/ suggestions from stakeholders. The received suggestions and inputs were examined and assimilated in the draft Bill. Thereafter, the draft Bill was further examined in consultation with Legislative Department from the point of view of legal drafting.

Following due procedures to introduce the bill, 'The Trafficking of Persons (Protection, Care and Rehabilitation) Bill' has been re-drafted and with the intent that it is duly responsive to ground level realities and requirements of the nation from all perspectives and is also appropriately complimentary to and juxtaposed and coordinated with India's existing legal framework and international obligations.
