

Regarding need for integrated investigation into reported issues of missing women and girls in Maharashtra and other parts of country-laid

SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT (MUMBAI SOUTH): I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the serious and persistent issue of missing women across the country, as reflected in recent data of the National Crime Records Bureau. As per the NCRB's Crime in India 2023 report, 4,84,584 missing persons cases were registered in 2023, of which 3,24,763 were women, highlighting the disproportionate impact on women. Further, during the period 2019 to 2021, a large number of women and girls were reported missing from major States. Maharashtra reported 1,78,400 missing women and 13,033 girls, Madhya Pradesh reported 1,60,180 women and 38,234 girls, and West Bengal reported 1,56,905 women and 36,606 girls. This issue goes far beyond missing person complaints and is closely linked to human trafficking, sexual exploitation, forced labour and organised crime, posing a serious threat to women's safety and internal security. Despite the magnitude of the problem, there is a lack of updated, consolidated and outcome-based national data on tracing and rehabilitation. I urge the Ministry of Home Affairs to place updated State-wise data before the House, strengthen Centre-State coordination, improve investigation and recovery mechanisms in high-burden States, and ensure regular monitoring and transparent reporting.