No. 15011/36/2022-ATC Government of India Ministry of Home Affairs Women Safety Division

> Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, India Gate, New Delhi – 110001. March 4, 2024.

To

- 1. The Chief Secretaries of all States & UTs.
- 2. Director General of Police of all States and UTs.

Subject: Advisory on preventing and combating human trafficking-Recommendations of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour, Textiles and Skill Development.

Madam/Sir.

As you are aware, Trafficking in Persons is a grave organized crime, which affects a large number of people across the globe. It can have both national as well as international ramifications.

- 2. The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour, Textiles and Skill Development had recently laid its Fifty-Second Report on the subject 'National Policy on Child Labour-An Assessment' in the Parliament. The Report, inter-alia, makes several recommendations for strengthening the law enforcement response against trafficking in persons. Taking cognizance of the recommendations made by the Committee, the following guidance/guidelines are shared with the States/UTs for consideration/implementation in their respective jurisdictions:
- (i) States/UTs are again advised to establish an Anti Human Trafficking Bureau (AHTB) at the State-Headquarter level and make it functional on urgent basis. This Bureau shall devise suitable mechanism for coordination amongst the District level Anti Human Trafficking Units and with the Headquarter level AHTB

of other States and UTs for preventing and countering human trafficking in an effective manner.

- (ii) States/UTs should accord utmost priority to cases of child trafficking and registration of FIRs in all cases of crime against Children/Women and pre-empt instances of giving low priority to such cases due to preoccupation of police with other crimes.
- (iii) States/UTs should also pay special attention to all cases involving child labour. Officers of the concerned State Departments may be suitably advised/briefed to address issues of child labour with utmost sensitivity and urgency.
- (iv) Short courses for training and sensitising police personnel may be organized by the States/UTs in close coordination with the Bureau of Police Research & Development to keep vigil on identified vulnerable areas such as eateries and small shops etc. and strengthen awareness of police personnel with regard to the issues of child labour.
- (v) Explore the possibility of associating Civil Society Organisations in combating the crime of human trafficking. Active involvement and engagement of all stakeholders, including Voluntary organisations with certain domain expertise, in the field of child trafficking will strengthen the efforts of the States/UTs in addressing human trafficking, particularly child trafficking incidents.
- (vi) Appropriate mechanism may be developed by States/UTs to keep a watch on the placement agencies/agents and other similar establishments which lure or traffic children on the pretext of providing better job opportunities. Suitable Campaigns/Drives may be conducted by States/UTs on regular basis to sensitise the vulnerable sections of the society.
- (vii) Convergence may be established/encouraged between all State Departments/stakeholders for effective handling of the crime of human trafficking. Coordination mechanism may also be developed by involving the labour department of the State/UT and it may be ensured that the police authorities keep a vigil/check on establishments which are prone to employing children/adolescents, particularly in districts identified as hotspots of child labour.
- (viii) Police force may be advised to take full advantage of CCTNS and CriMAC application which facilitates dissemination of information about significant crimes

including human trafficking cases across the country on real time basis. States/UTs may actively participate in uploading information about incidents of crime and criminals and continue to accord highest priority to the efforts directed at preventing and countering the scourge of trafficking.

3. States/UTs are requested to take note of the above guidelines and issue suitable instructions to all concerned Departments in the State/UT for implementation of the same. Action taken in the matter may please be apprised to this Ministry.

Yours sincerely,

(Arun Sobti)

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Copy, for information and action as necessary, to

- 1. Principal Secretary/ Secretary (Home) of all State Governments and UTs.
- 2. The Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
- 3. Nodal Officers for Anti Human Trafficking Units in all States and UTs.