

Portal in offing for missing children

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The Women and Child Development (WCD) ministry is developing a portal named 'Track Child', which would serve as a central database of all those children who have gone missing in different part of the country.

WCD Secretary Prem Narain told reporters here that the idea behind the portal was that it would act as a coordination mechanism between child homes, police departments and state governments accross the country.

"As soon as a boy-girl is enlisted in a home, or whenever a (missing) FIR is registered in a police station, the details will be put on the portal," Narain said.

Narain said his ministry would coordinate with police heads, social welfare departments of various states and other agencies to create this mechanism.

He said while the portal is yet to be launched, the mechanism was partially functioning and it had helped track around 1400 children.

The actual number of children who had gone missing was much higher, he said.

Narain also said WCD was also considering a proposal to create a National Institute of Women Affairs, which would serve as a thinktank for women-related matters.