Missing child tracking system to be in place

The state government is expediting efforts to put in place a mechanism to trace the missing child in the state. “The move is consonance with the Central government’s plan have a comprehensive, integrated and live database of children living in uncongenial and challenging environment and to develop a national portal on missing children,” said Sumita Misra, Director General, Women and Child Development Department (W&CD).

She said the Central government has visualised a need for constituting an interface between the Women and Child Development, and the Home Department, Haryana, in order to effectively monitor the missing children and implement child protection services.

She said that in order to effectively and efficiently monitor and generate a data bank on the missing children and child tracking, the W&CD Department is under process to roll out a training capsule on the formulation of a web portal for tracking the missing children, which would be a forerunner for the launch of the missing child tracking system (MCTS) project in the state by next year.

The Supreme Court in August this year had sought replies from the Central and the state governments on a public interest litigation (PIL), which had sought urgent action to trace 55,000 missing children. A bench of Justices Aftab Alam and Ranjana P Desai had asked the governments to respond to the PIL filed by advocate Sarwa Mitter, who quoted statistics furnished by the Home Ministry to inform the court that 1,77,600 children went missing between 2009 and 2011 and 55,470 remained untraceable.

The states from where large number of children went missing and were not traced included West Bengal (11,527), Rajasthan (11,000), MP (9,498), Delhi (5,946) and Haryana (1,517).