



CRIME BRANCH HEADQUARTERS, CUTTACK.

PRESS NOTE

A month-long dedicated campaign, entitled, "Operation Muskan-II" was launched from 25th July, 2016, for rescue and rehabilitation of missing children inside and outside the State of Odisha which ended on 24th August, 2016.

During Phase-I of "Operation Muskan-II", which commenced on 25th July, 2016, as on 24th August, 2417 missing children including 274 minor girls were rescued from within the State. 183 of these rescued children relate to missing cases earlier registered in different police stations and the investigation of these cases will be completed very soon. Angul district has rescued the highest number of 221 missing children, followed by Dhenkanal (202), Ganjam (181), Jajpur (174), Bhadrak (162), Kendrapara (152), Nayagarh (121), Koraput (98), GRP (Cuttack) (88) and Bargarh (85).

Phase-II of "Operation Muskan-II" commenced on 10th August 2016 and continued up to 25th August for rescue of children from outside the State. Ten Police teams including officials from Women and Child Development Department were formed and sent out to different States, like, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Telengana, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi NCR, Gujarat and Maharashtra. During the operation, 193 missing children including 65 girl children

were rescued from different States. Highest number of missing children were rescued from Tamil Nadu & Kerala i.e. 38 followed by Telengana 36, Chhattisgarh & Madhya Pradesh 33, Andhra Pradesh 26, West Bengal 15, Karnataka 14, Delhi NCR 13, Maharashtra 11, Uttar Pradesh 5 and Gujarat 2.

Thus a total of 2610 missing children were rescued (2271 boy and 339 girl children) during "**Operation Muskan - II**", 2016. All these rescued children shall be put up before Child Welfare Committee and appropriate steps etc. taken for restoration of the children to their families for reunion. They will also be linked to different Govt. schemes for their rehabilitation, whenever required.