

NATIONAL

Women and Child Development Ministry to move proposal to amend POCSO Act

The Women and Child Development (WCD) Ministry is set to move a proposal before the Cabinet this week for enhanced punishment in cases of sexual assault of male children, a senior official said. The Law Ministry has cleared the proposal to amend the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, for enhancing punishment in cases of sexual assault against young boys, officials said. "Amendments to the POCSO Act for enhanced punishment for sexual assaults of young boys have been approved by the Law Ministry. It will be sent to the Cabinet in two-three days, the WCD Ministry official said, without elaborating on the details of the proposal.

(H.,23/07)

Labour Ministry proposes changes in Trade Unions Act

The labour ministry has proposed changes in Trade Unions Act (1926), with an aim to give them wider recognition at central and state level. It has been alleged that the central and state government do not give due weightage to trade unions or their federation in the absence of any statutory backing, other than by the labour ministry. As per the existing rules, the trade unions are first verified by the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), consequent to which the Ministry of Labour and Employment provides recognition. There are 13 recognised central trade unions/ federations at present in the country.

(I.E.,23/07)