

Demand, of Women

9083. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI:
SHRI QUAZI SALEEM:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the resolution passed on 5th April, 1981 in the Seminar organised by the Women's Wing of All India Congress Committee (I) that (i) every marriage should be registered compulsorily within one month and a certificate should be issued by the Registrar; (ii) all offences where women judges, (iii) no woman should be called to the Police Station and her statement should be recorded at the convenient place desired by her during day time;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto;

(c) what action Government propose to implement the said resolution;

(d) whether Government propose to bring forward some law in this regard; and

(e) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). (i) Compulsory registration of marriages:

Even now, when a marriage is solemnised under the Special Marriage Act, 1954, the Marriage Officer has to enter a certificate thereof in the Marriage Certificate book. The position is the same under the Foreign Marriage Act, 1969. All marriages solemnised under the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872 have to be registered thereunder. Certificates of marriages contracted under the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act, 1936 have to be sent to the Registrar under that Act for being entered in the Register of Marriages. The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 empowers the State Governments to make rules providing

for registration of marriages. Under section 8(2) of the Act, the State Governments have power to make registration compulsory. Recently, but before the passing of the resolution mentioned in the Question the Ministry of Home Affairs have considered the proposal with respect to compulsory registration of all marriages in consultation with the State Governments. Having regard to the views expressed by the State Governments, generally illiteracy prevailing in the country and other special problems which would arise in connection with the marriage laws and customs in the tribal areas and of the minority communities, it was felt that no such measure could be effectively implemented. The proposal has, therefore, been dropped.

(ii) Family courts for trial of offences in which women are involved:

The proposal that all offences where women are involved should be tried by family courts presided over by women is not practicable.

(iii) No woman should be called to the police station:

Section 160 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974) provides that no woman shall be required to attend at any place other than the place in which such woman resides for purposes of investigation by police under that section. Further, the Ministry of Home Affairs have issued instructions (vide D.O. letter No. 9/18/79-Judl. Cell dated 14th March, 1980 addressed to Chief Secretariat of all State Governments and Union territories) that effective steps should be taken to prevent the police from subjecting women to any indignity or misbehaviour and to implement the provisions of section 160 strictly.

Selection of Team of Artistes and Technicians for the Shooting of Film "Gandhi"

9084. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION