

Regarding eradicating criminal and violent activities in Yavatmal district of Maharashtra

**SHRI SANJAY UTTAMRAO DESHMUKH (YAVATMAL-WASHIM):** Hon. Chairperson Sir, today I rise to speak on the menace of increasing criminal activities in Yavatmal District of Maharashtra. These crimes pose a threat to law and order as well as peace and harmony there. The crime rate has been consistently increasing in my district. There has been a significant growth in the serious crimes like theft, loot, murder, eve-teasing etc. The incident of murder took place over a petty issue of bicycle collision in Yavatmal. According to the data available on social media, around 77 murders took place in Yavatmal last year. Yavatmal city has registered the highest crime rate in Maharashtra.

There are 32 hard core criminals and four criminal gangs based in this city. Thirteen robbery and 89 forcible theft cases were recorded last year. Cases of chain snatching and eve-teasing activities are also on rise. Houses and shops are burgled at gun point. This district has shown an alarming rise in the cases of murders, which was once infamous for farmers' suicide. Teenagers are involved in these serious and heinous crimes and that is a matter of grave concern for all of us. Easy and free availability of liquor, opium and Gutkha is further deteriorating the situation. This exponential rise in crime rate and cases of farmer's suicide have painted a grim picture of Yavatmal's social and economic crisis. So, through you, I would like to request the Central Government to take quick and concrete steps to eradicate these criminal and violent activities and also to find a permanent and feasible solution to this menace. During the Lok Sabha elections, these goons and criminals were positioned at the polling stations and they were threatening the voters by offering money. A criminal mechanism was set up there to stop the voters from casting their votes. They forcibly applied ink on their fingers. Sir, kindly stop these crimes by deploying more police force equipped with modern equipments. The Government should also focus on employment generation for poverty alleviation. A special anti-narcotics drive should be initiated to spread awareness among youths. One special anti-crime Helpline should also be started. Thank you.

