

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:349
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2010
REVIEW OF IPC
Alagiri Shri S.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether recommendations have been received from various quarters including the National Commission for Women for a review of various provisions of the Indian Penal Code concerning crime against women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the follow up action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.349 FOR 20-04-2010 BY SHRI S. ALAGIRI, MP, REGARDING 'REVIEW OF IPC'.

(a) to (c): The Law Commission of India in its 172nd Report on "Review of Rape Laws" have, amongst others, recommended for changes in the provisions of Indian Penal Code relating to rape, outraging the modesty of women etc. The National Commission for Women has also recommended for changes in the provisions of IPC relating to crimes against women, which, inter alia, pertain to dowry death, outraging the modesty of a woman, stripping of woman in a public place and to make provisions in IPC for dealing with acid attack as a special offence.

As the provisions relating to rape and crimes against women are sensitive in nature, a High Powered Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Home Secretary to examine the issue on review of rape laws and to finalize the Bill in the matter. The Committee discussed the matter in the meetings held on 12-02-2010 and 15-03-2010. The suggestions made by the Committee have been formulated into the draft Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2010. The draft Bill has been uploaded on the website of the Ministry of Home Affairs (<http://mha.nic.in>) for information and comments from the general public by 15-05-2010. The views/comments and suggestions of State Governments and UT Administrations have also been invited on the draft Bill by 15-05-2010.

A writ petition (Crl.) No. 129 of 2006 – Laxmi (minor) through her father vs. Union of India and others had been filed in the Supreme Court of India, inter alia, praying for amendment in the Indian Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code for dealing with acid attack as a special offence. The matter is pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.