

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:278
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010
DOWRY DEATHS
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of dowry deaths pertaining to young brides are on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of such cases registered during each of the last three years, State-wise, including Karnataka;
- (c) the total number of accused persons arrested and the action taken against them during the said period, State-wise;
- (d) whether any stringent steps are being taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) & (c): A total of 7618,8093 and 8172 cases of dowry death (Section 304B IPC) were registered during 2006, 2007 and 2008 respectively which includes young brides also. The State/UT-wise details of cases registered, persons arrested and convicted under dowry death (Section 304 B IPC) during 2006-2008 are enclosed at Annexure -I

(d) to (f): The Union Government attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention of crime against women, including crime of dowry death, and has enacted important legislations such as Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 to provide protection and legal remedies to women. As per Seventh Schedule, 'Police' and 'Public Order' being State subjects under the Constitution, the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes, including crimes against women, lies with the State Governments. Government of India has been advising all the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time to give more focused attention to the administration of criminal justice system with emphasis on prevention and control of crime against women. In this regard, a detailed advisory dated 4th September, 2009 (available at website mha.nic.in) has been sent to all States/UT Governments wherein States have been advised to take comprehensive review of the effectiveness of the machinery in tackling the problem of violence against women, and to take appropriate measures aimed at increasing the responsiveness of the law and order machinery. The comprehensive advisory has enumerated various steps for improving effectiveness of the machinery in tackling atrocities against women including dowry deaths (Point xxv and xxvi of the advisory).