

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:38

ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010

CRIME AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether crimes against women and sexual abuse of children are on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of such cases registered during each of the last three years and the current year, crime-wise and Statewise, separately;
- (c) the action taken against the people involved in such crimes;
- (d) the steps taken to ascertain the reasons behind such cases;
- (e) the reasons for not enforcing the existing laws related to such crimes effectively;and
- (f) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): As per National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a total of 1,85,312, 1,95,856 and 2,03,804 cases of crime against women have been registered during 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively. Similarly a total of 5045, 5446 and 5368 cases of crime of rape against Children were registered during 2007- 2009. State/UT-wise details of cases registered, cases charge-sheeted, persons arrested, and person convicted in reference to crime against women and children are placed at Annexure-I and II. The data for current year is not available.

(d) to (f): As per Seventh Schedule, 'Police and 'Public Order' are State's subjects under the Constitution, and as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes, including crimes against women and children, lies with the State governments and Union Territory Administrations. However, the Union Government attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention and control of crime against women and children. The Central Government has been constantly reviewing and strengthening the existing legislations. Amendments have recently been carried out in the Code of Criminal Procedure in 2005 and 2008 and the Indian Penal Code to strengthen the law for prevention of crime against women and children.

Ministry of Home Affairs has sent detailed advisories dated 4th September, 2009 and 14th July, 2010 to all State Governments/UT Administrations wherein they have been advised, inter-alia, to make comprehensive review of the effectiveness of the law enforcement machinery in tackling the problem of crime against women and children.

The advisory to combat crime against women, inter-alia, advise the States Governments/ Union Territory administrations on gender sensitization of the police personnel, minimizing delays in investigations and improving the quality of investigations, setting up 'Crime against Women Cells' in districts where these do not exist, improving the safety conditions on road and Special steps for security of women working in night shifts of call centers.

The advisory to combat crime against children, inter-alia advise for improving the safety conditions in schools/institutions, public transport used by students, children's parks/play grounds, residential localities/roads etc. For this purpose the States/UTs have been advised to take following steps:

- i. Increase the number of beat constables;
- ii. Increase the number of police help booths/kiosks, especially in remote and lonely stretches;
- iii. Increase police patrolling, especially during nights;
- iv. Posting police officers, especially women fully equipped with policing infrastructure in crime-prone areas in adequate number.

There is also a 24-hour toll free emergency helpline service for children in need of care and protection in several cities under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.