

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1349

ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009

ATROCITIES ON DALITS

Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Asia Centre for Human Rights has recently published a report on incidents of atrocities against dalits and tribals in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of incidents reported during each of the last three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

Answer

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

(a): The report released by Asia Centre for Human Rights is not available with this Ministry. However, Government is committed to the welfare and safety of vulnerable sections of society, in particular Dalits and Tribals.

(b): As per statistics maintained by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) on the crime against SC/STs. The State/UT wise incidence of various crimes committed against SCs and STs during 2005, 2006 and 2007 are enclosed at Annexure I and II respectively.

(c): As per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects and, as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime, lies with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Government of India has enacted special enactments like Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 in order to safeguard the interests of SC/ST and Dalits. These enactments have extended the positive discrimination in favour of SCs and STs to the field of criminal law as they prescribe penalties that are more stringent than the corresponding offences under the Indian Penal Code and other laws. Special Courts have been established in major States for speedy trial of cases registered exclusively under these Acts. Government of India has also issued advisories to the State Governments and UT Administrations from time to time, to give more focused attention to the prevention and control of atrocities and strict enforcement of laws to check atrocities on dalits and tribals within their jurisdiction.