

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:128
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2011
DOWRY DEATHS
Shantha J.;Singh Smt. Meena

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of dowry deaths have been reported from various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of cases registered during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the total number of accused arrested and the action taken against them during the said period, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Union Government has issued any advisory to the State Governments to check such crime against women; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the State Governments in this regard??

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

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

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 128 FOR 09.08.2011

(a) to (c): A total of 8093, 8172 and 8383 cases of dowry deaths (Section 304-B IPC) were registered during the years 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively. The State/UT-wise details of cases registered, persons arrested and convicted under dowry death (Section 304-B IPC) during 2007-2009 are enclosed at Annexure. As per inputs provided by NCRB, the latest available data is upto 2009.

(d) to (e): 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. However, the Union Government attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention of crime against women, and has been advising all the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time to give more focused attention to the administration of the criminal justice system with emphasis on prevention and control of crime against women. In this regard, a detailed advisory dated 4th September, 2009 was sent to all States/UT Governments wherein States have been advised to make 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 enumerated various steps for improving effectiveness of the machinery in tackling atrocities against women including dowry deaths. (xxv) and (xxvi) of the advisory specifically states that dowry related cases must be adjudicated expeditiously to avoid further harassment of the women and ensuring appointment of Dowry Prohibition Officers and notifying the Rules under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961. Majority of the States/UTs have established 'Women Cells'. Some States/UTs have also set up 'All Women Police stations' at district level and 'Mahila desk' at Police Station level.