

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4994
ANSWERED ON:02.09.2011
ATROCITIES AGAINST WOMEN
Choudhary Shri Bhudeo;Singh Shri Radha Mohan

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the incidents of atrocities against women and children are on the rise;
- (b) if so, whether her Ministry proposes to amend the existing laws regarding prevention of crime against women and children and also to enact new and stringent laws in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the concrete steps taken or being taken by her Ministry to prevent atrocities against children?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) to (d): As per the National Crime Records Bureau data, a total of 185312, 195856 and 203804 cases of crimes against women were reported in the country in the years 2007, 2008 and 2009, thereby showing an increasing trend. Crimes against children are also on increase as would be seen from the number of registered cases which were 20410, 22500 and 24201 in 2007, 2008 and 2009.

Review of laws is an ongoing process to assess the effectiveness of the legislations and to bring about amendments, as may be necessary, from time to time.

The Government has introduced 'Protection of Women against Sexual Harassment at Workplace Bill, 2010 in Lok Sabha on 07.12.2010 which seeks to provide protection to women against sexual harassment at all workplaces both in the public & private sector whether organised or unorganised.

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Bill, 2011 was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 23.03.2011. The Bill seeks to address sexual abuse and exploitation of Children including Child Pornography.

Further, the Government has set up the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) under the provisions of the 'Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.' The objective of the NCPCR is to work for protection of Child Rights in the country. One of the main functions of NCPCR is to enquire into complaints of violation of Child Rights, including Child Abuse. NCPCR is also empowered to inquire into the cases of violation of Child Rights and take suo motu notice of matters relating to, (i) deprivation and violation of Child Rights, (ii) non-implementation of laws providing for protection and development of Children; and (iii) non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines or instructions aimed at mitigating hardships and ensuring welfare of the Children and to provide relief to such Children.