

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW AND JUSTICE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:203

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2011

LEGAL REFORMS TO CHECK CRIME AGAINST WOMEN

Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh;M.Thambidurai Dr.

**Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of cases of crime against women filed in various courts of the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the number of cases in which decisions have been pronounced by the courts and the number of cases still pending;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to set up separate fast track courts to deal with crime against women;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the legal reforms contemplated, if any, by the Government to deal with the increasing number of cases of crime against women?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 203 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2011 REGARDING LEGAL REFORMS TO CHECK CRIME AGAINST WOMEN.

(a): The number of cases of crime against women reported in the country by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in the last three years, is as under:

Year	No. of cases of crime reported
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2008	1,95,856
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2009	2,03,804
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2010	2,13,585
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Since NCRB brings out the data annually, the number of cases during the current year is not available.

(b): Such information is in the domain of judiciary and not maintained by the Central Government.

(c) & (d): There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(e): The Government has undertaken a series of measures which include amendment of existing laws, making of new laws as well as initiatives to bring down the pendency in the courts. The High Powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Union Home Secretary has examined the existing provisions in regard to rape under the Indian Penal Code and has made recommendations for amendments. Two new legislations, namely, Protection of Women against Sexual Harassment at Workplace Bill, 2010 and Protection of Children from Sexual Offence Bill, 2011 have been introduced in the Parliament. The first legislation seeks to provide safe, secure and enabling environment at workplace to every woman regardless of her age or employment status. There are specific redressal mechanisms provided for under the Bill which will cover cases of all women in the organized as well as unorganized sector. The second Bill will provide protection to children including girl child from offences against sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography. By creating a presumption in favour of the accused of having committed the offence if the child is below 16 years of age, the Bill seeks to provide assured protection against commission of such offences. There are also provisions incorporated in the Bill for speedy trial of cases.

The pendency reduction drive is an initiative which has been launched in a campaign mode to be undertaken by the courts between

July-December, 2011 for clearing petty cases as well as the old pending cases. During this campaign, special attention will be given to cases relating to women, senior citizens and other marginalized groups.

Other measures include increasing the number of court working hours using the existing infrastructure by holding Morning / Evening / Shift Courts for disposal of petty cases. A provision of Rs.2,500 crore for the period 2010-15 has been made for the purpose on the recommendation of Thirteenth Finance Commission. A module is also being developed for Training of Judges on laws and issues relating to marginalized people including women, children, SC/ST.