

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:98

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012

ATTACKS ON MEDIA PERSONS

Mani Shri Jose K.;Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there has been an increase in the incidents of violence, attacks including attempt to murder against media persons across the country during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details of such incidents reported during each of the last three years and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.98 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH MARCH, 2012 REGARDING ATTACKS ON MEDIA PERSONS

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and therefore, the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and also for prosecuting the accused or criminals involved, under the extant and applicable laws, through the machinery of their law enforcement agencies. The State Governments are, therefore, primarily responsible for ensuring protection of the life and property of all citizens including media personnel and journalists within their respective jurisdiction. The Union Government therefore does not have any direct role in the matter. The specific data regarding the incidents of violence, attacks including attempt to murder against media persons across the country is not centrally maintained.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has issued a comprehensive advisory on Prevention, Registration, Investigation and Prosecution of Crime to all State Governments and UT Administrations on 16th July, 2010.

The Press Council of India, a statutory autonomous body set up under the Press Council Act, 1978 with one of its objectives to uphold the freedom of press has also taken cognizance suo moto of incidents of attacks on media persons. The Chairman, PCI has also requested the concerned State Governments to take steps to ensure safety of the journalists while discharging their duties.