

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1674  
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012  
SECURITY OF WOMEN  
Venugopal Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to bring a bill to safeguard the security of married women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Commission for Women (NCW) has received many complaints in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government and NCW thereon?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): Provisions such as Section 304 B (Dowry Death) and Section 498 A (Cruelty to a married woman) already exist under the Indian Penal Code to safeguard the security of married women. Besides, Special Laws like Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 and Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 have been enacted to safeguard the interests of women including married women. At present, there is no proposal to bring any new Bill in this regard.

(c)&(d): The National Commission for Women (NCW) has been receiving complaints from all parts of the country relating to crime against women/ harassment of women which are registered under various categories. The number of cases registered by NCW under Domestic Violence/ Matrimonial Disputes, Dowry Death & Dowry Harassment during the last two years and the current year are as under:-

Complaint category    2010    2011    2012 (till date)

Domestic Violence/    2955    3824    765  
Matrimonial Dispute

Dowry Death    509    489    75

Dowry Harassment    668    238    44

(e): On receipt of complaints, the NCW acts upon them in the following manner:-

(i) For serious crimes, the NCW constitutes Inquiry Committees, which make on the spot inquiries, examine various witnesses, collect evidence and submit reports with recommendations.

(ii) Family disputes/ matrimonial disputes are resolved through counselling.

(iii) Some complaints related to domestic violence/ matrimonial disputes are forwarded to the concerned Authorities for appropriate action in view of the provisions of "the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005.