

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2282
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012
HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh;Patil Shri A.T. Nana

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the incidents of threat, attack and murder of human rights activists in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of such incidents reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to protect the human rights activists in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) have started separate registration of cases regarding atrocities on human rights defenders from 2009-10 onwards and a statement indicating the State-wise details of the cases registered by them during the last two years and the current year (upto 15.2.2012) is at Annexure.

(c): As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects. Hence, it is for the State Government to maintain Law and Order and to safeguard the interests of its citizens. The Central Government issues advisories, while the NHRC issues guidelines and recommendations for ensuring human rights. In addition, a senior officer in the NHRC has been designated as Focal Point for monitoring complaints pertaining to human rights defenders. A Workshop on Human Rights Defenders was also organized by them during October, 2009.