

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2268

ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012

DOWRY DEATHS

Bauri Smt. Susmita;Bavalia Shri Kuvajibhai Mohanbhai;Choudhary Shri Bhudeo;Dome Dr. Ram Chandra;Hazari Shri Maheshwar ;Karunakaran Shri P.;Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar;Roy Shri Mahendra Kumar;Saroj Smt. Sushila;Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B. ;Upadhyay Seema;Verma Smt. Usha

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a rise in the cases of dowry deaths reported from various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of such cases reported, accused arrested, convicted and the action taken against them during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether section 498-A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) regarding demand for dowry is being abused at large by the brides and their families; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to check misuse of the said Act?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): As per the information provided by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) State/UT wise details of cases registered, cases charge sheeted, cases convicted, persons arrested, person charge sheeted and persons convicted for dowry deaths years 2008,2009 and 2010 respectively is given at Annexure.

Representations have been received in the Ministry of Home Affairs from various non-governmental organizations as well as individuals regarding misuse of Section 498 A of IPC.

As per Seventh Schedule, `Police` and `Public Order` are State subjects under the Constitution, and as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes, including crimes against women, lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. However, the Union Government attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention and control of crime against women. Ministry of Home Affairs has sent detailed a detailed advisory dated 4th September, 2009 to all State Governments/UTs, wherein they have been,inter-alia, advised to adopt appropriate measures for swift and salutary punishment to the persons found guilty of violence against women, improve the quality of investigations, minimize delays in investigations of crime against women, set up `Crime against Women Cells` in districts, advised to undertake gender sensitization of the police personnel, special women courts and initiate steps for security of women working in night shifts at call centres. Majority of the States/UTs have established `Women Cells`. Some States/UTs have also set up `All Women Police stations` at district level and `Manila /children help desk` at police station level.

Ministry of Home Affairs has issued two comprehensive advisories on 20th October 2009 and 16th January, 2012 to all the State Governments/ Union Territory administrations regarding `Misuse of section 498A of IPC` and has advised States/UT for judicious application of 498A of IPC.