

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5125

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012

AMENDMENTS IN LAW

Bajirao Shri Patil Padamsinha ;Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh;Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar;Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu;Singh Shri Sushil Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to make amendments in the Indian Penal Code and the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2011 in order to bring changes in the various provisions relating to dowry, rape and other atrocities on women and to make the law gender neutral;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the other important changes proposed including making the said crimes non-bailable for repeated offences;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received any recommendations from the State Governments in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (d): A High-Powered Committee (HPC) was constituted under the chairmanship of former Union Home Secretary to examine the issue relating to the review of rape law. On the basis of the recommendations of 172nd Report of the Law Commission of India and the suggestion received in the form of a Bill from the National Commission for Women (NCW), the draft Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2010 was formulated by the HPC. The draft Bill of 2010 was referred to the State Governments for their comments/views. The draft Bill was also posted on the website of the Ministry of Home Affairs for comments of general public and NGOs. Keeping in view the comments received from the State Governments, individuals and NGOs on the draft Bill of 2010, the HPC finalized its Report along with the draft Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2011. The draft Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2011, inter-alia, contains the proposal for amendment to the provisions of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 relating to rape, outraging the modesty of women etc.