

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7527
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012
COMMUNAL VIOLENCE BILL
Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the `Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005` has been finalised by the Union Government;
- (b) if so, the details and salient features thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received views/comments from the State Governments in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): A Bill titled 'The Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005' was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 5.12.2005 and was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs. The Committee, while finalizing its report, relied on, inter alia, the comments received by them from the State Governments. The Committee submitted its Report on 13.12.2006 to the Parliament. After necessary inter-Ministerial consultations, and Government decision thereon, notices were given on several occasions in the Rajya Sabha for consideration and passing of the Bill. The Bill could not be taken up for consideration on these occasions.

The salient features of this Bill include:-

- (i) Provision for declaration of certain areas as communally disturbed areas by the State Governments;
- (ii) Measures for prevention of acts leading to communal violence;
- (iii) Enhanced punishment for offences relating to communal violence and for certain other offences;
- (iv) Provision for speedy investigation and trial of offences through Special Courts;
- (v) Institutional arrangements for relief and rehabilitation measures for victims of communal violence;
- (vi) Provision for compensation to the victims of communal violence and provision for special powers to the Central Government in certain cases;
- (vii) Constitution of a National Communal Disturbance Relief and Rehabilitation Council; State Communal Disturbance Relief and Rehabilitation Council; and District Communal Disturbance Relief and Rehabilitation Council; and
- (viii) Prohibition of any discrimination in providing compensation and relief to the victims of communal violence on grounds of sex, caste, community or religion.