

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1731  
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012  
IMPLEMENTATION OF SC/ST ACT  
Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Supreme Court has recently expressed concern over the fact that in most of the cases of violence against dalits, even necessary investigations are not completed within the stipulated time envisaged in the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities), Act, 1989;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the court has also observed that many of the States have not even established special courts for speedy trials of the cases under the Act; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the measures being taken for effective implementation of this Act?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI R.P.N SINGH)

(a) to (d): Ministry of Home Affairs is not aware of any such observation by the Supreme Court of India.

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 SC/ST 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 SC/ST.

Ministry of Home Affairs has sent a detailed advisory dated 01st April, 2010 on crimes against SC/ST to all States / UTs. The advisory on SC/ST has enumerated various steps, viz; vigorous and conscientious enforcement of the statutory provisions and the existing legislations; sensitizing the law enforcement machinery towards crimes against SCs/STs by way of well-structured training programmes, conferences and seminars etc.; improving general awareness about legislations on crimes against SCs/STs, develop a community monitoring system to check cases of violence, abuse and exploitation; no delay in the registration of FIR in cases of crimes against SCs/STs; identification of for the economic and social atrocity-prone areas for taking preventive measures; adequate measures rehabilitation of the victims of atrocities etc.

Ministry of Home Affairs in consultation with Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment had convened a meeting to discuss on effective implementation of the SCs/STs PoA Act 1989 on 17th April, 2011 at New Delhi. The meeting was attended by Chief Ministers and Administrators of some States / UTs, Home Ministers and Minister in charge of Social Justice of many States / UTs and other representatives.