

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:131  
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012  
ATROCITIES AGAINST SCS/STS  
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there has been a growing trend of low rate of conviction and pendency of cases under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for ensuring the proper implementation of the Act and expeditious disposal of pending cases in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (KUMARI SELJA)

(a), (b) & (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in answer to parts (a), (b) & (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 131, for 03.12.2012, by Shri Harishchandra Chavan, regarding 'Atrocities against SCs/STs'

(a)&(b):- As per data of the National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, the rate of conviction and pendency of cases in courts in regard to cases under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities){PoA} Act, 1989, in conjunction with the Indian Penal Code crimes, during the last three years has been as follows:-

Table I

Year	Conviction rate(in percentage)
2009	29.4
2010	33.7
2011	30.0

Table II

Year	Pendency of cases(in percentage)
2009	80.5
2010	79.1
2011	79.9

The above data indicates a marginal variation over the period of 2009-2011. The State/UT wise details are given in the annexure.

(c): The PoA Act is implemented by the respective State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. With a view to ensure its effective implementation, the following steps have been taken by the Ministry:-

(i) Central assistance is provided to States/Union Territories, inter-alia for:-

- (a) strengthening the enforcement and judicial machinery,
- (b) relief and rehabilitation of the affected persons, and
- (c) awareness generation etc.

(ii) Central Government has, by notification dated 23.12.2011, amended the rules under the PoA Act and effected an increase - generally of 150% - in the minimum scale of relief for victims of various types of atrocities.

(iii) A Committee constituted, in 2006, under the Chairpersonship of the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, has so far held twenty meetings wherein implementation of the Act in 24 States and 4 Union Territories has been reviewed. Important points emerging from the review are followed up with the State Governments.

(iv) On the request of this Ministry, the Ministry of Home Affairs organized a one-day meeting of the Ministers of Home and Social Justice/Welfare, Principal Secretaries of Home, SC/ST Development Departments, and DGPs of States, on 17.04.2012, on 'Effective Implementation of The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989'.

(v) Offences under the PoA Act are reviewed, inter-alia, in the Conference of Ministers/Secretaries in charge of Social Justice /Welfare, organized by the Ministry every year.

(vi) The Central Government has also been addressing the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to implement the provisions of the PoA Act, in letter and spirit, with specific emphasis on setting up of exclusive special courts for speedy trial of cases, sensitization of investigating officers, mass awareness programmes, training and sensitization of police officers, identification of atrocity prone areas as an ongoing process and review of cases ending in acquittal.