

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:451  
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013  
ACID ATTACKS  
Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

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

- (a) whether incidents of acid attacks on women continue to remain high in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government maintains the data on the number of incidents of acid attacks on women;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the total number of such cases reported and action taken against the guilty persons during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (e) the time by which the said information would be made available at the earliest;
- (f) whether the Supreme Court has recently expressed displeasure on the failure of the Union and the State Governments to address the menace of acid attacks on women; and (g) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Union/State Governments to stop such cases in future?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): As per information provided by the National Crime records Bureau (NCRB), data regarding acid attack on women is not maintained centrally by NCRB.

(e): This information would be available in the next six months.

(f): While hearing a Writ Petition on Acid Attack case, the Hon'ble Supreme Court expressed dissatisfaction over Government's initiative to restrict or ban sale of acids which could not be implemented due to some practical problems. The Hon'ble Court has directed the Government to explore the feasibility of banning / restricting sale of acids and framing a law for treatment and compensation to victims.

(g): The President of India on 4th February, 2013 has recently consented to the Ordinance on crimes against women which makes acid attack a specific offence. Under the new provision a person may be punished with life imprisonment if found guilty of acid attack. The minimum sentence of 10 years and fine of Rs. 10 lakh has also been prescribed in the ordinance.

The Criminal Amendment Bill 2012, which has been introduced in the Parliament, proposes insertion of sections 326A and 326B in the Indian Penal Code (IPC) for making acid attack a specific offence. It penalises the act of intentionally causing damage to the body of a person, or burning or maiming a person by throwing acid with imprisonment for minimum of 10 years that may extend up to life imprisonment and a fine of Rs 10 lakh. It penalises the attempt to cause harm by throwing acid with minimum of five and maximum of seven years of imprisonment