

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:896

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009

PROTECTION TO WITNESSES

Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh; Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

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

- (a) the number of complaints of harassment and intimidation of witnesses reported during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether adequate security is provided to the witnesses;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps the Government proposes to take to ensure security to the witnesses;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to enact a legislation on the protection of witness; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a) National Crime Records Bureau have informed that they do not maintain this information. Such information is not received from the Courts.
- (b) & (c) No such cases have been reported to the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- (d) to (f) The law Commission of India in its 198th Report on "Witness Identity Protection and Witness Protection Programmes" has suggested comprehensive review of witness protection. Since the Criminal Law and the Criminal Procedure are on the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, this requires consultation with State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. The Report been referred to all the State Government and Union Territory Administrations for their comments/views. No Time-frame can be fixed in this regard.