

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1442

ANSWERED ON:06.03.2013

SAFETY OF WOMEN

Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben

**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

he details of the decision taken in National Development Council meeting for the protection /safety of women in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND PLANNING (SHRI RAJEV SHUKLA)

The 57th National Development Council (NDC) held on 27th December, 2012 considered and adopted the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017). The Prime Minister in his inaugural address observed that the emergence of women in public spaces, which is an absolutely essential part of social emancipation, is accompanied by growing threats to their safety and security. The issue of safety and security of women is of the highest concern to our Government. There can be no meaningful development without the active participation of half the population and this participation simply cannot take place if their security is not assured. He urged all Chief Ministers to pay special attention to this critical area in their states.

The ending of gender based inequities, discrimination and violence is an overriding priority in the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The Plan endeavors to provide nurturing, protective and safe environment for women to facilitate their entry into public spaces. It calls for improving the implementation of Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA), improving the implementation of Dowry Prohibition Act and enactment of the Protection of Women from Sexual Harassment at Work Place Bill. The Plan proposes new initiatives such as One Stop Crisis Centres for providing shelters, Police Desk, legal, medical and counseling services and Women's Helpline. The Plan proposes gender audit of transport terminals and introduction of safety measures for women, creation of night shelters and toilets for women at bus stations to facilitate travel, dedicated exclusive services such as ladies special buses and trains and a component on safe city planning under Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission.

The Plan draws attention to the intergenerational cycle of multiple deprivation and violence faced by girls and women which is epitomized by the adverse child sex ratio in children under the six years of age and emphasizes on focused interventions to improve the Child Sex Ratio.