

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5575
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
DEATHS IN POLICE CUSTODY
Gorakhnath Shri ;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government maintains the data with regards to the custodial deaths of Scheduled Castes, Schedules Tribes, Other Backward Classes, minorities etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, separately during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the percentage in respect of the said categories, out of the total custodial deaths in the country, State-wise; and
- (d) the preventive measures taken by the Government in this regard, particularly for these categories?

Answer

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

- (a): No such data is Centrally maintained by the Government. However, State-wise details of custodial deaths in police custody, registered by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), during the period 2010-11 to 2012-13 are at Annexure.
- (b) & (c): Do not arise in view of reply at (a) above.
- (d): As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, "Police" and "Public Order" are State Subjects. As such, it is for the State Governments to take action in such crimes. The Central Government issues advisories, while the NHRC issues guidelines and recommendations to be followed by the States/UTs in all cases of deaths in the course of police action. In addition, workshops/seminars are also organized by NHRC from time to time for sensitizing officers in State Governments for better protection of human rights and particularly, protection of rights of persons in custody.