

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5980
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2013
DOWRY DEATH CASES
Yadav Shri Om Prakash

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of dowry deaths presently lying pending in various high courts of the country;
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government for expeditious settlement of such cases; and
- (c) the other effective steps taken/proposed by the Government in addition to provisions of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 to check dowry related deaths in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

- (a): As per the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, the total number of cases pending for trial in various courts in the country relating to Dowry Death cases at the end of year 2011 were 29669. No specific data is available for cases pending in various High Courts in the country.
- (b): A number of measures have been taken/ initiated by the Government to reduce the pendency of cases in courts at various levels like establishment of special courts for fast tracking trial of offences against women, increasing the strength of judges and judicial officers at various levels, improving the physical infrastructure of courts, out-of-court settlement of disputes through alternate dispute redressal mechanisms such as mediation, arbitration and Lok Adalats.
- (c): The Government of India regularly conducts awareness generation programmes and publicity campaigns on various laws relating to women including Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 through workshops, fairs, cultural programmes, seminars, training programmes etc. Advertisements are regularly brought out in the print and electronic media to create awareness on laws relating to rights of women.