

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2511

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013

PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether various laws enacted by the Government to protect the women and children have not borne the desired results;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Safety of women and children in the country is of utmost priority to the Government. Efforts have all along been made to establish mechanisms to provide safe and secure environment for women and children. On the legislation front, women specific laws like the "Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005"; "Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961"; "Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986"; and the "Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013" have been enacted. The Government has enacted 'The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012' to provide protection to all children under the age of 18 years from the offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography. The Government regularly reviews the implementation of various legislations and if required, necessary amendments are carried out for effective implementation. Recently, the "Criminal Law (Amendment), Act 2013" has also been enacted making the punishment more stringent for offences like rape, besides recognizing various other activities like voyeurism, stalking etc. as offences and crime against women.