GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3352
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2013
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE TO VICTIM OF RAPE
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Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated a Scheme, namely, 'Restorative Justice to Victim of Rape';
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof;
- (c) the details of corpus fund created under the said scheme; and
- (d) the details of financial assistance and other compensations proposed to be provided to the rape victims or their legal heirs under the said scheme?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): As per Section 357A of the CrPC, the State Governments have to formulate a Victim Compensation Scheme (VCS) in consultation with the Central Government. As informed by the Ministry of Home Affairs, till date 17 States and 7 Union territories have notified the victim compensation scheme. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 also mandates free medical assistance for victims of rape and acid attack in all private and government hospitals. The Legal Services Authority Act, 1987 provides free legal services to all women. The Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and rule provides for relief for atrocity victims which includes compensation of Rs 1.2 lakhs to women victims of sexual exploitation belonging to SC/ST.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India is administering shelter based schemes i.e. Swadhar and Short Stay Homes for providing immediate shelter to women in distress, including women victim of rape. Protective and rehabilitative (P&R) Homes for the victims of trafficking are also funded by the Ministry under the Ujjwala Scheme. Under these homes, free food, clothing, medical, counselling and basic skill training are provided to the beneficiary women. The Ministry is also administering the scheme of Family Counselling Centre (FCCs) through the Central Social Welfare Board (Central Social Welfare Board) to provide counselling, referral and rehabilitative services to women who are victims of atrocities, family maladjustment, social ostracisation etc.

After taking the totality of support and service available for the victims of rape, including monetary compensation as per Section 357A of CrPC, the Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and rules thereto and the schemes being implemented by Ministry of Women & Child Development, the formulation of scheme for `Restorative Justice to Victim of Rape' has been reviewed.