

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3445  
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2013  
LABELLING OF WOMEN WITCHES  
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

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

- (a) whether the National Commission for Women (NCW) has taken note of incidents of labelling of some women as witches in some parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of NCW thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government/NCW to protect the women from such atrocity harassment?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. The National Commission for Women(NCW) receives complaints which are registered under various categories including the category of Dayan Pratha/Witch Hunting. The State/UT wise complaints registered with NCW in the category of Dayan Pratha/Witch Hunting during the last two years and the current year is annexed.

(c): In order to combat the menace of Dayan Pratha/Witch Hunting and to facilitate awareness on the problem and suggesting measures to rehabilitate the hapless women, NCW holds Seminars, Workshops and awareness camps. Recently consultations on the issue were held in Raipur, Guwahati and Ajmer. NCW also sponsors NGOs to create awareness about the problem and its ill effects among general public in vulnerable areas.