

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:734
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2013
CASTE BASED DISCRIMINATION
Punia Shri P.L.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases has been reported with regard to caste-based discrimination in temples in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise including Odisha;
- (c) whether any inquiry has been conducted to ensure that pilgrims are not subjected to caste-based discrimination in the religious institutions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): There have been media reports on caste based discrimination in temples in the country. As per information provided by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), no specific data on caste-based discrimination in temples is maintained centrally. However, the total cases registered (CR), cases chargesheeted (CS), cases convicted (CV), persons arrested (PAR), persons chargesheeted (PCS) and persons convicted (PCV) under Protection of Civil Rights Act is given in Annexure.

(c) & (d): As per Seventh Schedule, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Constitution, and as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes, including crimes against SC/ST lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. However, the Union Government attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention and control of crime against SC/ST. Ministry of Home Affairs has sent a detailed advisory dated 01st April, 2010 on crimes against SC/ST to all State / UTs.

Ministry of Home Affairs in consultation with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment had convened a meeting the discuss on effective implementation of SC/ST PoA Act 1989 on 17th April, 2011 at New Delhi wherein the various aspects of effective implementation of legislations concerning SC/ST were discussed.