

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3100

ANSWERED ON:11.02.2014

ACID ATTACKS

Dhruvanarayana Shri R.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of acid attacks on women and girls are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of such cases reported along with women/girl children died/injured, accused arrested and the action taken against the guilty, rehabilitation of victims along with the financial assistance provided for medical treatment to victims separately, during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the details of advisories issued to the States to curb such cases including ban on sale of acid and to ensure speedy trial in this regard as well as amendment in relevant laws to give stringent punishment to the guilty persons?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) As per data provided by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the total number of Cases registered (CR), number of Women Victim (WMV), Cases Charge-sheeted (CS), Persons Arrested (PAR) and Persons Chargesheeted (PCS) under acid attack on women during 2010-2012 is given in Annexure. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in a recent judgment has directed that the acid attack victims shall be paid compensation of at least Rs. 3 lakhs by the concerned State Government/Union Territory as the after care and rehabilitation cost. However, the data regarding rehabilitation, financial assistance and medical treatment is not available with Ministry of Home Affairs.

(c) The Ministry of Home Affairs has recently issued an advisory "Measures to be taken to prevent acid attacks on people and for treatment and rehabilitation of survivors" on 30th August, 2013 arising from the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Criminal) No. 129/2006, Laxmi vs Union of India and others to all States/UTs with the objective of regulating sale of acids and minimize the easy availability of acids.

The President of India on 2nd April, 2013 has consented to the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, which have come to force since 3rd Feb, 2013, on crimes against women. Specific provisions in form of 326A and 326B of Indian Penal Code (IPC) have been inserted for cases of acid attacks

Article 326A of IPC provides for minimum 10 years imprisonment for the offence of causing hurt by acid attack, extendable to life, and with fine. The fine shall be just and reasonable to meet the medical expenses of treatment. Any fine levied under this section shall be given to the person on whom acid has been thrown or administered, which will be in addition to any compensation paid to the victim by the State Government under the Victim Compensation Scheme.

Article 326B provides a minimum punishment of five years, extendable to seven years and fine for attempt to through or administers acid.