

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2716

ANSWERED ON:07.02.2014

RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF RAPE VICTIMS

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

- (a) the mechanism put in place by the Government for providing relief and rehabilitation to the victims of rape and those injured from burning/acid attack in various parts of the country;
- (b) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Government to create any fund/formulated any scheme for relief and rehabilitation of such victims and if so, the details thereof along with the time by which such scheme/fund are likely to be formulated/created;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide legal assistance to such victims from the said fund;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide adequate and timely relief/rehabilitation to such victims?

**Answer**

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

(a): The compensation part of the rehabilitation of victims of violence including rape is governed by provision of Section 357A of the Code of Criminal Procedure which states that every State Government in co-ordination with the Central Government shall prepare a scheme for providing funds for the purpose of compensation to the victim of crime including rape. So far 20 states and 7 UTs have formulated the Victim Compensation Scheme. As per section 326 A of the IPC, Criminal Law Amendment Act 2013 apart from making punishment stringent, for acid attack, it provides for just and reasonable fine to meet the medical expenses of the victim and this shall be paid to victim. The amendment also provides that all the hospitals, public or private, have been mandated to provide free medical treatment to all victims of acid attack and rape.

(b): In pursuance of directives in W.P.(CrI.) No. 129 of 2006 case of Laxmi vs. Union of India, the Law Commission of India in its 226 report on "The Inclusion of Acid Attacks as Specific Offences in the Indian Penal Code and a law for Compensation for Victims of Crime" had recommended that a law known as " Criminal Injuries Compensation Act" be enacted which should provide both interim and final monetary compensation to victims of certain acts of violence like Rape, Sexual Assault, Acid Attacks etc. and provide free medical treatment to them. Section 357A has been inserted in CrPC which inter-alia provide for preparation of a scheme for providing compensation to victims affected by violence.

(c) & (d): Under the Legal Service Authority Act 1987, all women are entitled to free legal aid.

(e): The Ministry of Women and Child Development is also administering Swadhar and Short Stay Home Schemes for relief and rehabilitation of women in difficult circumstances, including the victims of rape.