

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2782
ANSWERED ON:07.02.2014
SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the cases of sexual harassment of children especially girls studying in schools are on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, state/UT wise; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Based on the complaints relating to sexual harassment of children in schools received by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and Ministry of Human Resource Development (M/O HRD), it is difficult to conclude that there is any rise in the cases of sexual harassment of children especially girls in the country. The details of complaints received by NCPCR and M/O HRD are at Annexures-I and II respectively.

(c): The Government has enacted a special law 'Protection of Children against sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012' which has come into effect from 14th November, 2012 and also covers sexual harassment of children in schools under Section 11 of the Act. Further, Section 21 of the Act makes the person in charge of school liable for punishment, in case he/she does not report sexual harassment committed by a subordinate under his/her control