

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:15
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2015
RELIGIOUS CONVERSION
Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the recent incidents of religious conversion;
- (b) if so, the number of such incidents reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to bring in stringent anti-conversion laws and to punish the guilty;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the measures taken to curb such incidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) to (e): There have been press reports from time to time regarding allegations of religious conversions. 'Public Order' and 'Police' are the State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India and hence prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of offences related to religious conversions are primarily the concern of the State Governments/UT Administrations. Action is taken as per existing laws by the law enforcing agencies whenever instances of violations come to notice. No centralized data/statistics is maintained pertaining to religious conversions.

Some State Governments have enacted laws providing for the prohibition of conversion from one religious faith to any other religious faith by the use of force or inducement or by fraudulent means etc. The Supreme Court have upheld that such State Acts fall within the purview of Entry-I of List –II of the Seventh Schedule.