

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2964

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2015

REHABILITATION OF RAPE VICTIMS

Panda Shri Baijayant "Jay";Reddy Shri J.C. Divakar;Sathyabama Smt. V.;Singh Shri Ganesh;Venugopal Dr. Ponnusamy

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/burning/ acid attack and trafficking in various parts of the country;
- (b) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Government to create a special fund/formulate any scheme for relief and rehabilitation of such victims and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide legal assistance to such victims from the said fund, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up rehabilitation centres for such victims in the country, if so, the details thereof, along with the time by which such centres are likely to be set up in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has held discussions with the State Governments regarding rehabilitation of such victims in the country, if so, the details and outcome thereof; and
- (f) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide adequate and timely relief/rehabilitation to such victims?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(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 24 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. The Ministry is implementing "Ujjawala"- a Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation, Re-Integration and Repatriation of Victims of Trafficking for Commercial Sexual Exploitation.

(b): In pursuance of directives in W.P.(Crl.) 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): Under the Legal Service Authority Act 1987, all women are entitled to free legal aid.

(d) & (e): No madam. However, the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), has introduced a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up One Stop Centre (one Centre in every State/UT). The scheme aims at facilitating/providing medical aid, police assistance, legal counseling/court case management, psycho-social counselling and temporary shelter to women affected by violence for implementation during the remaining period of 12th Five Year Plan i.e. 2015-2016 and 2016-2017.

(f): 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.