GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5654
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2015
CRIME AGAINST SENIOR CITIZENS
Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Mondal Shri Sunil Kumar;Solanki Dr. Kirit Premjibhai;Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether incidents of crime against senior citizens and harassment of old aged parents by their family members are on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of such cases registered, guilty arrested and the action taken against them alongwith the cases solved/unsolved and the steps taken to solve all the cases during each of the last three years and the current year, crime and Statewise including murder and robbery;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to enact a legislation for the protection of old aged persons;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be done; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to provide special security to senior citizens and old aged parents along with the details of advisories/guidelines issued to the States and police departments in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b) Several cases of crime and harassment of senior citizens by their family members have been reported. As per information provided by

the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the specific data of crime on senior citizens by their family members is not available. However, the collection of data on crimes committed against senior citizens has been started since January 2014. Previously NCRB used to collect data on crimes against persons aged above 50 years for few categories of crime. The State/UT-wise provisional data for the current year on cases registered under crime against senior citizens, till October, 2014 is enclosed at the Annexure.

(c) to (e) The Government has enacted the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 which inter-alia makes maintenance of parents/senior citizens by their children/relatives obligatory and justiciable through Tribunals; provides for revocation of transfer of property by senior citizens in case of neglect by children/ relatives; penal provisions for abandonment of senior citizens, medical facilities for senior citizens; and protection of life and property of senior Citizens.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has issued two detailed advisories dated 27.3.2008 and 30.8.2013 to all State Governments/UTs advising them to take immediate measures to ensure safety and security and for elimination of all forms of neglect, abuse and violence against old persons through initiatives such as identification of senior citizens, sensitization of police personnel regarding safety, security of older persons, regular visit of the beat staff; setting up of toll free senior citizen helpline; setting up of senior citizen security cell; verification of domestic helps, drivers, etc.

As a special measure, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empower- ment provides financial assistance under the Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Progarmme for Older Persons (IPOP) to eligible Panchayati Raj Institutions/ Non Governmental/ Voluntary Organisations for maintenance of old age homes, respite care homes, day care centres etc. including, inter-alia, programmes catering to the basic needs of older persons particularly food, shelter and health care to the destitute elderly.