

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1273  
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2015  
Misuse of Dowry Prohibition Act  
Singh Shri Virendra

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding misuse and lodging of false cases under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of such cases reported and the action taken against the guilty during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to provide compensation to the victims of such false dowry cases in order to compensate them for the monetary losses and mental and physical harassment faced by them; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government in order to check such cases in future?

**Answer**

Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs  
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d): Some Complaints regarding lodging of false cases under the provision of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 have been reported. However, specific data

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regarding such cases is not maintained centrally. There are adequate punitive provisions within IPC to discourage filing of false cases. As per Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India 'Police' and 'Public Order' are state subjects and as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime lies with State Governments / UTs.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has issued three advisories to the States / UTs to curb misuse of section 498A of Indian Penal Code(IPC) on 20.10.2009, 16.01.2012 & 11.07.2014 respectively. These advisories, inter-alia, advise the states/UTs on judicious and cautious application of dowry laws so as to ensure that no innocent person is victimized. Moreover, the victim of false case can also evoke Section 182 of Indian Penal Code(False information with intent to cause public servant to use his lawful power to the injury of another person) which provides for imprisonment for a term which may extend upto six months or with fine or both.