

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2503

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2015

Atrocities against SC Community

Kharge Shri Mallikarjun ;Marutharajaa Shri R.P.;Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether incidents of offences/ atrocities against the people belonging to the Scheduled Caste (SC) community are on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the number of such cases registered, disposed of, persons convicted and the rate of conviction achieved during each of the last three years and the current year, crime and State/ UT-wise;
- (c) whether there is inordinate delay in the disposal of such cases;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the concrete measures being taken by the Government to curb atrocities against the SC community including effective implementation of the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 enacted for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a) and (b):- As per the Government of India(Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, inter-alia, the subject matter of criminal offences against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes including those under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes(Prevention of Atrocities){PoA}Act, 1989, is allocated to the Ministry of Home Affairs(MHA). As per the data of National Crime Records Bureau(NCRB), MHA, the number of cases relating to offences of atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes, registered under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC in the country for the years 2011, 2012 and 2013, is indicated as under:-

Year Number of cases registered relating to SCs under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC

2011 33, 652

2012 33, 592

2013 39, 346

The State/Union Territory wise number of cases registered by the Police under the PoA Act, in conjunction with the IPC, number of cases disposed of by the courts, number of cases convicted by the courts and the rate of conviction, during the years 2011, 2012 and 2013, is given in statement annexed. Offence wise data in regard to cases registered under various sections of the PoA Act, is not generated by the NCRB. Whereas the NCRB has not provided the finalized data for the year 2014, the data for ongoing year 2015, becomes due after conclusion of the year.

(c) to (e) :- The disposal of cases may be influenced by several factors like witnesses turning hostile, belated prosecution, loss of interest by the victims and witnesses due to long delay in completion of trial, absence of corroborative evidence etc. As the provisions of the PoA Act are implemented by the concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, Central assistance is provided to them mainly for functioning and strengthening of the SC and ST Protection Cell, Special Police Stations, setting up of exclusive Special Courts, relief and rehabilitation of atrocity victims and awareness generation. This Ministry has also been addressing them from time to time to implement provisions of the Act in letter and spirit, with specific emphasis on setting up of exclusive special courts for speedy trial of cases, sensitization of investigating officers, mass awareness programmes, review of cases ending in acquittal. A Committee under the Chairpersonship of Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment which was constituted in the year 2006, also periodically reviews implementation of the Act in State/UTs. Such a review has been done in respect of 24 States and 4 Union Territories.