GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:294 ANSWERED ON:25.11.2014 CRIME AGAINST WOMEN

Chinnaraj Shri Gopalakrishnan;Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Lokhande Shri Sadashiv Kisan;Mahajan Smt. Poonam ;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.;Reddy Shri J.C. Divakar;Sundaram Shri P.R.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether atrocities and crimes against women and children are on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of such cases reported/registered, accused arrested/convicted, cases solved/unsolved, conviction rate achieved and the steps taken to solve all the pending cases and to improve upon the conviction rate of such cases along with the action taken against the guilty during each of the last three years and the current year, crime and State-wise including child abuse, rape/gang-rape, molestation, eve-teasing, acid attacks, abduction and murder;
- (c) whether the Union Government has reviewed the status of implementation of the various advisories/measures to curb crimes/ atrocities against women and if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has assessed/conducted any study/ reviewed the reasons behind the spurt in crime against women and children and if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (e) Whether the Ministry is working in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development, various women welfare organizations and Non-Governmental Organisations to ensure the security of women in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the other measures taken by the Government to check such cases and provide safety and security to women and children in the country?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): As per data available with the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), there has been increase in total number of crimes registered against women and children during 2011-2013. State/UT wise and crime head wise details of cases registered, cases charge-sheeted, cases convicted, persons arrested, persons charge-sheeted, persons convicted and conviction rate under crime against women and children during 2011-2013 are available in the Ministry of Home Affairs website. (http://mha1.nic.in/par2013/ParWinter2014.html)
- (c): Periodical conferences with Director General of Police (DGP)/Inspector General of Police (IGP) of States/UTs are held to discuss all aspects of law and order including crimes against women and children. Awareness and implementation of the advisories issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs are taken up during these meetings.
- (d): The Ministry of Home Affairs had appointed Justice J.S. Verma Committee and Justice Usha Mehra Commission of enquiry to look into various aspects of crimes against women and children.

On the basis of Justice Verma Committee Report and Justice Usha Mehra Commission report, the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2013 was prepared and enacted. It has enhanced punishment for crimes like rape, sexual harassment, stalking, voyeurism, acid attacks, indecent gestures like words and inappropriate touch etc. In addition, amendments are made to the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and Indian Evidence Act, 1872 to protect the rights of victims of sexual assault. Some provisions of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 were also amended.

(e) to (f): The Ministry of Home Affairs in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development is working on several areas concerning women and children. No NGOs non-Government affiliated women welfare organizations are directly involved in any project being implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The President of India on 2nd April, 2013 has consented to the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2013, which has come into force since 3rd February, 2013 on crimes against women.

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, has come into effect from 14th November, 2012 is a special law to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has been sanctioned a sum of Rs.321.69 crore out of the Nirbhaya Fund to implement emergency response system to attend calls from women in distress and provide them immediate assistance.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to counter human trafficking. In pursuance of this objective, the Ministry of Home Affairs has established a total number of 225 Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) in various districts of the country.

To create a mechanism for tracking 'missing'and 'found'children, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has developed a national portal called 'TrackChild' which has data on 'missing' and 'found'children.

As per the 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 the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. However, Government of India is deeply concerned with the welfare of women and children; and through various schemes and advisories to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, augments the efforts of the States/UTs.