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Title: The Minister of Home Affairs made a statement regarding the Mumbai gangrape incident.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): Madam Speaker, as my colleague, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has assured the House that I would be making a statement, and in response to that I am making the statement.

In a shocking incident on the evening of 22nd August, 2013, a young lady photojournalist, aged around 22 years, was waylaid and gang-raped by a group of men in the abandoned Shakti Mills Compound in Lower Parel, South Mumbai. As per the information available with the police, the young photojournalist, along with a male companion, went for a photo shoot to the mill compound at about 1800 hours. There, they were accosted by a group of men, who restrained them and then separated them. Thereafter, the lady was gang-raped. Later on, both, the lady photojournalist and her male companion were allowed to go at about 1900 hours. They reached the Jaslok Hospital, Mumbai at about 2000 hours where the lady photojournalist is being treated.

On receipt of the information by the police at 2030 hours, a gang-rape case was registered in N.M. Joshi Marg Police Station, Mumbai and the investigation was initiated. The Statement of the male companion has been recorded. The medical and forensic examination has been carried out. The spot visit and collection of evidence from the spot has been conducted. The male companion has provided some vital clues about the culprits and based on that, the Mumbai police prepared and released some sketches of the suspects. The Mumbai police launched a massive operation with over 20 teams at work to nab the culprits. All the five culprits have since been arrested.

The public order and the police are subjects exclusively dealt with by the States. The State Government of Maharashtra will do its utmost to complete the investigation of the crime and prosecute the accused under law expeditiously. I condemn this incidence.
