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Title: The Minister of Home Affairs made a statement on incident of gang rape in South Delhi on 16th December, 2012.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): Madam, in response to the Chair's direction and the assurance given by my Parliamentary Affairs Minister, I am making this Statement on the incident of gang-rape that took place in Delhi on 16th December, 2012.

A student of physiotherapy and her friend took a lift at Munirka Bus Stand on the Outer Ring Road at around 9.15 p.m. on 16th December, 2012 in a chartered bus which was not authorised to pick up passengers. During the journey, these six persons beat up the couple ...(*Interruptions*) Instead of couple, I will put it as girl and her friend – you can correct it – and gang-raped the girl, injuring her grievously, robbed them of their belongings and clothes and left them by the side of NH-8 in Mahipalpur area. The victims were immediately taken to Safdarjung Hospital by PCR. The boy was discharged after treatment on the same day. The girl is admitted in the hospital and is recuperating according to the doctors.

Delhi Police immediately launched an investigation, identified and seized the bus and arrested the main accused Ram Singh who is 33 years old, the regular driver of the bus. He disclosed the names of the other five persons involved. Three of them have already been apprehended, bringing the total arrest to four. The arrest parties have been set to nab the remaining two persons. The bus DL-1PC-0149 belongs to a private transporter and is used to transport children of Birla Vidya Niketan School in Pushp Vihar, Saket.

The case was detected without loss of time and four of the six accused have been arrested. It is proposed to have this case tried by a fast track court, with a request for day to day hearing so that the trial does not linger.

I will take a detailed review with the Delhi Police officers and ensure that all the necessary steps which need to be taken are taken to make Delhi safer for women.

If there are any lapses, strict action will be taken against the police officers concerned.

Some facts about the steps taken by the Delhi Police for making Delhi a safer place for women at night:-

- a. All roads are covered by PCR vans at night. The frequency of patrolling kept as high as possible;
- b. Specific routes have been identified which are used by women returning from their work places like call centres/BPOs at night, and the number of Emergency Response Vehicles and PCR Vans on these routes has been increased; apart from introducing motorcycle patrols;
- c. Delhi Police has issued orders to BPOs and other establishments that at night they must drop their workers at their door-step; and
- d. Three dedicated help-lines have been set up for women and publicised.

A special Task Force at the level of Home Secretary will be constituted to look into the safety issues for women in Delhi by taking into consideration the suggestions which have been made by the hon. Members of Rajya Sabha, which is why I am mentioning it here, in the House. If there are any suggestions from Lok Sabha also, I will include them also.

A Criminal Law Amendment Bill, 2012 has already been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 4th December, 2012 with the objective of rationalizing the various sections of the IPC and the Indian Evidence Act dealing with sexual offences against women so that the conviction rate is improved.

In this Bill, you must have seen that we have enhanced the punishment for rape also. Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)

सभापति महोदया : यह आज डिसकशन का विषय नहीं है।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): He has not mentioned the word 'gang-rape'. What is wrong in using that word?

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (GHATAL): The word 'gang-rape' is not there. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Please let there be no discussion on this; I am sorry.

...(*Interruptions*)

सभापति महोदया : प्लीज़, आप बैठ जाइए।

वैः (व्यवधान)

सभापति महोदया : इस स्टेटमेंट पर अभी कोई चर्चा नहीं होगी। ऐसे नहीं होता।

वैः (व्यवधान)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY He has not mentioned the word 'gang-rape'. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : That word should be there. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH (MUNGER): We need some clarifications. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Please listen to me. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: There can be no discussion on the Statement please. Now, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has requested the Chair to take up Item No. 31 because अभी यह बात हो गई है कि इसे थोड़ा पोस्टपोन किया जाए।

...(*Interruptions*)
