GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.480
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2021

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

480. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:
DR. BANDA PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a rise in incidence of domestic violence against women during the COVID -19 induced lockdown;
(b) whether it is a fact that domestic violence complaints were at a 10 year high during COVID -19 lockdown;
(c) whether total cases of violence against women have gone up in last five years;
(d) the number of cases of domestic violence which came to notice across the country during the lockdown and unlock 1 to unlock 5, State/UT and year-wise; and
(e) the action taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (e): National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes information on crimes in its publication "Crime in India". The published reports are available till the year 2019. State-wise and year wise total number of cases reported across the country is available on the website of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), https://ncrb.gov.in.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including women are with the respective State Governments. The State governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provision of law. However, Government has taken a number of initiatives in this regard during COVID-19 lockdown. The Government has ensured that its institutions such as One Stop Centres (OSCs), Universalisation of Women Help Line (WHL), Ujjawala Homes, Swadhar Greh, Child Care Institutions, Child Line (1098), Emergency Response Support System (112) and various statutory authorities under women centric laws such as 'The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005', 'The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961', 'The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006' etc. remained operational and available for providing assistance to women during the period. Further, during lockdown, National Commission for Women also took measures to assist women facing distress.

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