GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3344
ANSWERED ON - 24/03/2021

NEW PROVISIONS OF SC/ST ACT

3344. # SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the cases of atrocities have been reduced after implementation of new provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that new provisions of the Act have been effectively implemented in educational institutes also, and the cases of atrocities have been reduced in higher educational institutes, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

(a) The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989, has been amended through the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2015 and enforced with effect from 26.01.2016.

The PoA Act has been further amended by the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2018, on **20.08.2018** with a view to nullify conduct of a preliminary enquiry before registration of an First Information Report (FIR) or to seek approval of any authority prior to arrest of an accused.

The year-wise record of number of cases registered under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC relating to offences of atrocities against members of SCs and STs is given below:

Year	Number of cases registered under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC relating to offences of atrocities against members of :		
	SCs	STs	Total
2015	38564	6275	44839
2016	40774	6564	47338
2017	42969	7125	50094
2018	38327	6178	44505
2019	41793	7815	49608

From the above table, it is inferred that the number of atrocity cases registered after the inclusion of new provisions in the PoA Act, 1989 shows fluctuations and the increase or decrease in cases registered is not regular.

(b) Since 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule (List-II) to the Constitution of India and the State Governments/UT Administrations are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of all crimes within their jurisdiction including crimes against members of SCs and STs, as also for implementation of provisions of the PoA Act and the PoA Rules. Details in this regard are not maintained by this Central Government.

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