GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

RAJYA   S A B H A

STARRED QUESTION No. *177

ANSWERED ON 22/12/2022.

LEGAL RECOGNITION OF LIVE-IN RELATIONSHIPS

*177. SMT.RAJANI ASHOKRAO PATIL

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to introduce a system for registering live- in relationships;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government intends to provide a set of protections for people   in live-in relationships;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government intends to recognize non-heterosexual live-in   relationships; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE,

(KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (f) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to **(f) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.177 FOR ANSWER ON 22/12/2022**

(a) to (f) : In so far as the protection of people in live-in relationships are concerned, 'the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005' (PWDVA) provides for protection of the rights of women who are victims of violence of any kind occurring within the family and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. As per sub-section (f) of section (2) of the aforesaid Act 'domestic relationship' means relationship between two persons who live or have, at any point of time, lived together in a shared household, when they are related by consanguinity, marriage, or through a relationship in the nature of marriage, adoption or are family members living together as a joint family". The Hon'ble Supreme Court and other Hon'ble Courts in a number of judgements have held the view that 'live-in-relationship', which are in the nature of marriage are covered under the provisions of PWDVA. In *Navtej Singh Johar and Ors Vs Union of India* and Ors (Writ Petition(Criminal) No. 76 of 2016) the Supreme Court held that consensual sexual acts of adults in private is constitutional.

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