

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No - 20**  
ANSWERED ON – 07/12/2022

**VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS REPORTED IN KGBV**

20 SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has any statistical data on cases of violence against girls reported in Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken any steps to ensure safety, security and psychological well-being of the students?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) & (b): Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) is a provision under the centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha, to promote girls' education in Educationally Backward Blocks. Samagra Shiksha is being implemented for universalization of quality education throughout the country in coordination with the States and UTs. As education is a subject in the concurrent list of the Constitution, majority of schools come under the jurisdiction of the respective State/UT Governments. Administrative matters and operationalisation of KGBVs also comes under the purview of concerned State/UT Governments. Besides, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and the responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including crimes against children, rest with respective State Government and UT Administration. No such statistical data regarding KGBVs is maintained in Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL).

(c): DoSEL has developed Guidelines on School Safety and Security, which, inter alia, contain provisions for fixing the accountability of the school management in the matter of safety and security of children studying in Government, Government-aided and Private Schools. These guidelines have been circulated to all States/UTs/Autonomous Bodies of DoSEL and Stakeholder Ministries. The guidelines detail the accountability of various stakeholders and different departments in ensuring the safety and security of children in schools and promote whole school safety approach— consisting of physical, emotional and social well-being, both individually and collectively.

In addition, to ensure safety and security of girls residing in KGBVs, various aspects related to safety & security have been prescribed in the framework of Samagra Shiksha. Some of them are as under:

- Child Safety Posters, POSCO E-Box details, School Safety Pledge and Child helpline number should be on display in prominent locations of the hostel.
- No male family member or any other visitor should be allowed to enter the dormitories of the girls.
- School Development and Monitoring Committees/local Communities needs to be involved in reviewing Safety and Security to KGBVs Girls.
- Unusual behaviors, continuous absence from classes or any other signs of stress or depression, if observed, may be brought to the notice of parents for follow up with the counselor.
- Safety and security audit should be done periodically.
- Watchman is to be provided in all KGBVs for 24 hours.

Further, under NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement), a nation-wide integrated teacher training program under Samagra Shiksha, teachers are oriented on counseling, provisions of POCSO Act, Juvenile Justice Act, School Safety guidelines, helpline and emergency numbers, drop-box for complaints, etc. In addition to this, teachers are also trained for the pedagogical processes to be adopted in order to develop healthy attitudes and behaviors among all children, including children with special needs and realization of the significance of a healthy and safe environment for children in school. The aspect of a safe environment encompasses all aspects of safety such as safe use of the internet and gadgets, Covid-19 Safety Protocol, physical development, emotional well-being, mental health, protection against violence and harassment and disaster management etc.

Moreover, Ministry of Education has undertaken a proactive initiative, named, '**Manodarpan**', covering a wide range of activities to provide psychosocial support to students, teachers and families for Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing during the COVID outbreak and beyond. National Toll-free Helpline (**8448440632**) for a country-wide outreach to students from schools, colleges and universities to provide them tele-counselling to address their mental health and psychosocial issues during and after the COVID-19 situation has been set up.

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