

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2319
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2023

MOST UNSAFE CITY FOR WOMEN IN INDIA

2319. SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:
SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:

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

- (a) number of reported crimes against women in Delhi, since 2018, crime-wise;
- (b) number of cases undergoing investigation, acquittal and conviction, in the last five years;
- (c) details of people-to police ratio in Delhi, along with number of functional One Stop Centres (OSCs); and
- (d) steps taken by Government to tackle the rising rate of crimes against women in Delhi?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes data on crimes, including crime against women, in its publication "Crime in India". The said report is available upto the year 2021. The details of the crime head-wise and State/ UT-wise number of reported cases of crimes against women including for Delhi UT are given in Table 3A.2 of the publication "Crime in India" available on the website of NCRB <https://ncrb.gov.in>. As per NCRB data, the total number of cases of crimes against women in Delhi UT for the year 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 are 13640, 13395, 10093 and 14277 respectively.

"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 investigation and prosecution in cases of crime against women and children rests primarily with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. However, the central government attaches highest importance to safety and security of women in the country and provides assistance to the State Governments / UT Administrations including the UT of Delhi to supplement their efforts.

In terms of legal protection, 'the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018' was enacted to prescribe even more stringent penal provisions including death penalty for rape of girls below the age of 12 years. The Act also inter-alia mandates completion of investigation and filing of charge-sheet in rape cases in 2 months and trials to be completed in 2 months. The Government has launched the "National Database on Sexual Offenders" (NDSO) on 20th September 2018 to facilitate investigation and tracking of sexual offenders across the country by law enforcement agencies. The Government has launched an online analytic tool "Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences" for Police on 19th February 2019 to facilitate them to monitor and track time-bound investigation in sexual assault cases in accordance with Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2018.

The schemes/ projects implemented by the Government under Nirbhaya Fund include 733 functional One Stop Centre (OSC) including in all districts of Delhi; Universalisation of Women Helplines (functional in 34 States/ UTs including Delhi), operationalisation of Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) which is a pan-India single number (112)/ mobile app based system for emergencies (functional in all States/ UTs including Delhi) ; a cyber-crime reporting portal to report obscene content; safe city projects in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai) including infrastructure, technology adoption and capacity building in community through awareness programmes, establishment of state of the art DNA Laboratory at CFSL, Chandigarh; assistance to 30 States/ UTs to strengthen Forensic Science Laboratories; setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) for speedy disposal of cases of rape and cases under POCSO Act (758 FTSCs have been made functional having disposed of more than 1.60 lakh cases); setting up/ strengthening of Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) in all districts of the country (788 AHTUs are functional including 30 in Border Guarding Forces such as Border Security Force and Sashastra Seema Bal); setting up/ strengthening of Women Help Desks (WHDs) at Police Stations (13557 WHDs are functional across the country) etc.

Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has also undertaken several initiatives, which, inter-alia include training and skill development programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers, distribution of Sexual Assault Evidence Collection (SAEC) Kits to States/ UTs. BPR&D has also prepared Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for 'Women Help Desk at Police Stations' to ensure smooth functioning of Women Help Desks by focusing on four critical components, viz. infrastructure, training, human resource development and response mechanism. Webinars on women safety with sensitivity, gender sensitization of police personnel etc. have also been organized by BPR&D.

Recognizing the need for psycho-social counselling to women affected by violence and in distress, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has engaged the services of National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) for providing basic and advanced training under the project named 'Stree Manoraksha' to the staff of One Stop Centres (OSCs) across the country on handling psycho-social and mental health care needs of women facing violence and distress.

The National Commission for Women (NCW) in collaboration with its counterparts in States/ UTs and other stakeholders, generates awareness through seminars, workshops, audio- visual, print and electronic media etc. to sensitize the people about the safety and security of women. In addition, Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Home Affairs have issued advisories to States/ UTs from time to time on various issues pertaining to safety and security of women.