

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -303
ANSWERED ON - 24/07/2024

CRIME AGAINST SCs AND STs

303.SHRI RAGHAV CHADHA

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

- (a) whether crime against Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes(STs)is on the rise in the Country in recent years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that at several places across the country, people are facing discrimination in accessing public services on account of their caste and if so, the action taken thereon;
- (c) the details of criminal cases reported against SCs and STs in the country in the last five years, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to re-visit the existing provisions of law to protect the interests of SCs and STs and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

(a) to (c) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes statistical data on crimes in its publication "Crime in India". The published reports are available until year 2022. The details of number of Cases Registered, under Crime/Atrocities against Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs) during years 2018-2022, State/UT-wise are at Annexure.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility of maintaining law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including SCs/STs rests with the respective State Government and Union Territory Administration. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. However, the Government of India is committed to ensure protection of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) conducts training, courses and webinars from time to time for police personnel sensitizing them for effective implementation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (PoA) Act, 1989. In addition, Government of India has issued advisories from time to time to implement the provisions of the PoA Act and Rules in letter and spirit.

(d) To make the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (PoA) Act, 1989 more effective and to provide greater justice and enhanced redressal to injustice suffered by the atrocity victims, the Act has been amended in 2015. The amendment includes new offences, expanded scope of presumptions, institutional strengthening, which inter-alia includes establishment of Exclusive Special Courts and specification of Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors to exclusively try offences under the PoA Act to enable expeditious disposal of cases, power of Special and Exclusive Special Courts to take direct cognizance of offences and as far as possible, completion of trial within two months from the date of filing of the charge sheet, establishing rights of victims and witnesses, and strengthening preventive measures. Further, Section 18 of the Act was amended through the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2018 and enforced on 20.08.2018. After this amendment, conduct of a preliminary enquiry before registration of an FIR or to seek approval of any authority prior to arrest of an accused is no longer required.

State/UT Wise Cases registered under Crime against Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs) during 2018 to 2022

SL	State/UT	Scheduled Castes (SCs)					Scheduled Tribes (STs)				
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1	Andhra Pradesh	1836	2071	1950	2014	2315	330	330	320	361	396
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
3	Assam	8	21	28	15	14	6	4	10	16	9
4	Bihar	7061	6544	7368	5842	6509	64	97	94	103	146
5	Chhattisgarh	264	341	316	330	323	388	427	502	506	516
6	Goa	5	3	2	4	8	5	2	2	5	1
7	Gujarat	1426	1416	1326	1201	1279	311	321	291	341	330
8	Haryana	961	1086	1210	1628	1633	0	1	0	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	130	189	251	244	210	1	1	3	7	4
10	Jharkhand	537	651	666	546	674	224	342	347	250	283
11	Karnataka	1325	1504	1398	1673	1977	322	327	293	361	438
12	Kerala	887	858	846	948	1050	138	140	130	133	172
13	Madhya Pradesh	4753	5300	6899	7214	7733	1868	1922	2401	2627	2979
14	Maharashtra	1974	2150	2569	2503	2743	526	559	663	628	742
15	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	1
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	5	0	8	0	0	29
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	1778	1886	2046	2327	2902	557	576	624	676	773
20	Punjab	168	166	165	200	162	0	1	4	0	0
21	Rajasthan	4607	6794	7017	7524	8752	1095	1797	1878	2121	2521
22	Sikkim	5	4	0	2	3	1	2	0	1	4
23	Tamil Nadu	1413	1144	1274	1377	1761	15	31	23	39	67
24	Telangana	1507	1690	1959	1772	1787	419	530	573	512	545
25	Tripura	1	0	2	3	2	0	2	2	0	3
26	Uttar Pradesh	11924	11829	12714	13146	15368	145	36	3	4	5
27	Uttarakhand	58	84	87	123	114	7	8	13	6	1
28	West Bengal	119	145	109	108	104	101	99	90	92	90
	TOTAL STATE(S)	42747	45876	50202	50744	57428	6524	7565	8268	8790	10055
29	A&N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	3	3
30	Chandigarh	1	1	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu+	1	2	1	0	0	3	0	0	3	5
32	Delhi	36	76	69	136	130	0	2	1	5	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir*	1	2	7	13	11	0	0	0	1	1
34	Ladakh		-	0	0	0	-		0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
36	Puducherry	7	4	9	7	9	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	46	85	89	156	154	4	5	4	12	9
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	42793	45961	50291	50900	57582	6528	7570	8272	8802	10064

Source: Crime in India # Clarifications are pending from Nagaland for the year 2022

Note : '+' Combined data of erstwhile D&N Haveli UT and Daman & Diu UT during 2019

*' Data of erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir State including Ladakh during 2019
