

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1103
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

1103. SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- (a) the cases of domestic violence against women in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by the Ministry to assist women undergoing domestic and sexual violence;
- (c) the details on the success of One Stop Centre services (OSC) across the country; and
- (d) the details of cases/complaints received and assistance provided through the OSCs in the State of Punjab?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

(a): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes data on crimes, including crime against women, in its publication “Crime in India” available on the website on NCRB, <https://ncrb.gov.in>. The said report is available upto the year 2022 – Crime Head-Wise & State/UT-wise, that includes the details of complaints registered under “the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence (PWDV) Act, 2005”. As per information available with NCRB, the number of cases registered under the PWDV Act, 2005 during the years i.e. 2020, 2021 and 2022 are 446, 507 and 468 respectively. The State/UT-wise details of cases registered under PWDV Act, 2005 during the years 2020, 2021 and 2022 is at **Annexure**.

(b): “Police” and “Public Order” are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including investigation and prosecution of crime against women and children including the cases of domestic violence rests primarily with the respective State

Governments and they are competent to deal with it. Under the PWDVA, the States/UTs are mandated to appoint such number of Protection Officers (POs) in each district as it may consider necessary and also to notify the area or areas within which a Protection Officer shall exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred. It is the duty of the Protection Officer to report the cases of domestic violence to the Magistrate upon receipt of complaints and to assist the Magistrate in the discharge of his functions. The accused person is convicted as per the mandate of the legal process. The PWDVA provides remedies such as protection order, residence order, monetary relief, custody order and compensation order against it. The Act also empowers the Magistrate to grant any such interim and ex-parte orders as deemed just and proper. These measures are implemented through the legal process.

The Central Government gives highest priority to ensuring safety and security of women and has undertaken various legislative and policy interventions in this regard. These include legislations such as “The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018” (now under Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita), “The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2006”, “The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961”, "the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace(Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, 2013" (SH Act, 2013) etc. The schemes/ projects implemented by the Government include One Stop Centres (OSCs); 24×7×365 toll-free Women Helpline (181) has been universalized. It provides emergency and non-emergency services to any women in need by connecting them with appropriate authorities. Emergency Response Support System (ERSS), which is a pan-India single number (112)/ mobile app based system for emergencies is also available to women in distress. Now, Women Help Line (WHL) is integrated with ERSS for providing 24×7 emergency and non-emergency help and support to needy women. In addition, under Nirbhaya Fund, the Central Government has provided assistance to States/ UTs for setting up/ strengthening Women Help Desks (WHDs) in all police stations. So far, 14658 Women Help Desks have been established, out of which 13743 WHDs are headed by a women police officer.

Under Nirbhaya Fund, Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has also undertaken several initiatives, which, inter-alia includes training and skill development programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers. BPR&D has also prepared Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for ‘Women Help Desk at Police Stations’ to ensure their smooth functioning. Emphasis has been laid upon appropriate behavioural and attitudinal skills of the police in course of prevention and detection of crime against women and children and interaction with victims of crime. 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 those 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 to support to such women. The Ministry undertakes awareness exercise for safety and security of women and children from time to time.

Further, Government, through institutions like the National Commission for Women (NCW) and its counterparts in States, has been spreading awareness through seminars, workshops, audio- visual, print and electronic media to sensitize people about the aspects of safety and security of women and also about various provisions of the legislation, policies and schemes. 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.

(c) & (d): The One Stop Centre (OSC) scheme is implemented by Government across the country under ‘Mission Shakti’ Scheme to provide integrated support and assistance under one roof to women affected by violence and those in distress whether in private or public spaces. OSC provides medical aid, legal aid and advice, temporary shelter, police assistance, psycho-social counselling to women in distress. As on date, a total of 870 OSCs have been approved in the country, of which 802 OSCs are currently functional. In Punjab, 23 OSCs covering all districts have been approved, all of which are functional. Over 10.12 lakh women have been assisted through OSCs across the country till Oct., 2024, including 19566 in the State of Punjab.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.1103 FOR ANSWER ON 04.12.2024 ASKED BY SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU REGARDING 'DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN'

The State/UT-wise details of cases registered under PWDV Act, 2005 during the years 2020, 2021 and 2022.

SL	State/UT	2020	2021	2022
		No. of Incidences/Cases	No. of Incidences/Cases	No. of Incidences/Cases
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	1	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	1	1
3	Assam	0	1	0
4	Bihar	23	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	0	1	0
6	Goa	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	0	0	1
8	Haryana	0	3	1
9	Himachal Pradesh	2	1	2
10	Jharkhand	66	82	67
11	Karnataka	0	0	0
12	Kerala	165	270	371
13	Madhya Pradesh	180	131	10
14	Maharashtra	3	5	1
15	Manipur	1	2	0
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	1	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0
19	Odisha	0	0	0
20	Punjab	0	0	0
21	Rajasthan	0	1	3
22	Sikkim	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	0	1	5
24	Telangana	0	0	0
25	Tripura	0	0	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	0	1	3
27	Uttarakhand	0	0	0
28	West Bengal	1	0	0
	TOTAL STATE(S)	441	502	465
29	A&N Islands	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	0	0	0
32	Delhi	2	4	3
33	Jammu & Kashmir	3	1	0
34	Ladakh	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	0	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	5	5	3
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	446	507	468

Source: Crime in India
