GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1834

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH DECEMBER, 2024/ AGRAHAYANA 20, 1946 (SAKA)

CRIME AGAINST SC COMMUNITIES IN BIHAR

1834 SHRI SANJAY YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) in 2023, Bihar ranked second in the list of States where murders of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs), also NCSC expressed concern regarding increase in crime against SC communities in Bihar;

(b) the States which records the highest number of crimes against SCs/STs;

(c) the States which records the maximum number of crimes against people from Other Backward Communities (OBCs);

(d) the concrete steps being taken to prevent crimes against marginalised communities; and

(e) the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR)

(a) to (c): National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles statistical data on crimes as reported to it by the States/UTs and publishes the same in its publication "Crime in India". The latest published report pertains to the year 2022. The State/UT-wise detail of Cases Registered (CR), under murder and total crime against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during year 2022 is at Annexure. NCSC has informed that data published by NCRB in 'Crime in India 2022' has been incorporated in NCSC Annual Report 2022-23. Category wise crime data is maintained only for SCs/STs by NCRB.

(d) & (e): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are 'State List' 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 Scheduled Castes (SCs) & Scheduled Tribes (STs), rests with the respective State Governments/UT Administrations, who are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. However, the Government of India is committed to ensure protection of members of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes throughout the country and supports & supplements the efforts of the State Governments to effectively tackle crime against SCs and STs. Major steps taken by the Government of India in this regard are as follows :-

To make the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 more effective and to provide greater justice and enhanced redressal to injustice suffered by the atrocity victims, this Act has been amended in the year 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 Courts and Exclusive Special Courts to take direct cognizance of offences. Further, Section 18 of the POA Act was amended through the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2018 and enforced with effect from 20.08.2018. 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.

-3-

Further, a National Helpline against Atrocities (NHAA), having toll free number 14566 has been established to facilitate the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with the objective of their grievance redressal and to generate awareness about the provisions and processes under the Law. A collaboration has also been made with the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), India for awareness generation of these Acts, Rules and centrally sponsored scheme in force for implementation of these Acts. In addition, Ministry of Home Affairs has been advising the State Governments/ UT Administrations from time to time to give focused attention to effective administration of the criminal justice system with emphasis on prevention and control of crimes against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and to implement the provisions of the POA Act and Rules in letter and spirit. These advisories are available at the website of this Ministry www.mha.gov.in.

-4-

Ministry of Home Affairs has also advised the States and UTs to identify the Atrocity-prone areas for taking preventive measures to save life and property of the members of the SC and ST communities and post adequate number of police personnel, fully equipped with policing infrastructure in the Police Stations in such vulnerable areas.

Further, 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. Further, the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment runs a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the effective implementation of Protection of Civil Rights (PCR) Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes (SC) and the Scheduled Tribes (ST) (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989, under which Central Assistance is provided to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for effective implementation of these Acts, which includes :

(i) Functioning and strengthening of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection cell and Special Police Stations.
(ii) Setting up and functioning of exclusive Special Courts.
(iii) Relief and Rehabilitation of atrocity victims.
(iv) Incentive for Inter-Caste Marriages, where one of the spouses is a member of a Scheduled Caste.

(v) Awareness generation.

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SL	State/UT	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes	
		Murder	Total Crime against SCs	Murder	Total Crime against STs
1	Andhra Pradesh	49	2315	8	396
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	0	14	0	9
4	Bihar	168	6509	0	146
5	Chhattisgarh	10	323	13	516
6	Goa	0	8	0	1
7	Gujarat	30	1279	12	330
8	Haryana	45	1633	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	1	210	0	4
10	Jharkhand	0	674	2	283
11	Karnataka	72	1977	17	438
12	Kerala	11	1050	5	172
13	Madhya Pradesh	83	7733	61	2979
14	Maharashtra	76	2743	26	742
15	Manipur	0	0	0	1
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	3	5	4	29
18	Nagaland #	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	21	2902	16	773
20	Punjab	6	162	0	0
21	Rajasthan	99	8752	40	2521
22	Sikkim	0	3	0	4
23	Tamil Nadu	55	1761	2	67
24	Telangana	31	1787	10	545
25	Tripura	0	2	0	3
26	Uttar Pradesh	189	15368	0	5
27	Uttarakhand	3	114	0	1
28	West Bengal	2	104	1	90
28	TOTAL STATE(S)	954	57428	217	10055
29	A&N Islands	0	0	0	3
30	Chandigarh	0	4	0	0
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	0	0	0	5
32	Delhi	0	130	0	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir	0	11	0	1
34	Ladakh	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	9	0	0
36	TOTAL UT(S)	0	154	0	9
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	954	57582	217	10064

State/UT-wise Cases Registered (CR), under Murder and Total Crime against Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes during year 2022.

Source: Crime in India
