

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 470
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2025

CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN

470 # SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:

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

- (a) whether the number of crimes against women has increased in the last five years;
- (b) whether the reasons for increase in crimes against women during the said period include domestic violence, rape, sexual harassment, dowry death, if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether the main reason for increasing crime against women in the country is weak legal process; and
- (d) if so, whether the efforts are being made by Government to reduce these crimes and make stringent laws, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): ‘Police’ and ‘Public Order’ are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Responsibility to maintain law and order and protection of life and property of the citizens and investigation and prosecution of crime against women rests primarily with the respective State Governments; they are legally competent to deal with such crimes.

The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes statistical data on crimes in its publication “Crime in India”. The latest published report pertains to the year 2022 and is available at its website <https://ncrb.gov.in/en/crime-india>. As reported by NCRB, the data of State/UT-wise cases registered under Crime against Women during 2018-2022 is at **Annexure-I** and the Crime Head-wise case registered under Crimes against Women during 2018-2022 is at **Annexure-II**. Among other reasons, increased reporting of crime is attributable to the increased level of awareness among citizens due to various measures taken by government in the last few years including the operationalisation of helplines such as Women Helpline -181, Child Helpline - 1098 and Emergency Response Support System (ERSS-112), concept of Zero FIR and e-FIR and provision of institutional support to the survivors.

For safety and security of women and girls, government has taken several steps. Some recent laws and policies that directly and indirectly cater to the safety of women are given below:

- i. The Government of India with an aim to modernize and improve the criminal justice system has enacted Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) which came into effect from 1st July, 2024. In BNS 2023, the offences against women and children earlier scattered in Indian Penal Code, 1860 have been brought together and consolidated under Chapter-V of BNS. It has introduced new provisions to strengthen laws related to women and children, specifically, Section 111 related to “organized crime”, Section 69 related to sexual intercourse on false promise of marriage, employment, promotion or by suppressing the identity, Section 95 related to hiring, employing or engaging a child to commit an offence etc. In respect of the crimes related to buying a child for the purposes of prostitution (Section 99), gang rape (Section 70) and exploitation of a trafficked person (Section 144), punishment has been increased. Further, in respect of certain severe crimes against women like buying child for the purposes of prostitution (section 99 of BNS), organised crime (Section 111), kidnapping or maiming a child for purpose of begging (Section 139), mandatory minimum punishments have been prescribed. Also, Sections 75 and 79 of BNS 2023 provide additional legal protections against harassment, covering actions like unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, sexually coloured remarks and also word, gesture or act intended to insult modesty of a woman. A woman facing sexual harassment at workplace has an option to file a complaint under these provisions.
- ii. Additionally, provisions under section 398 BNSS which introduce Witness Protection Schemes, acknowledging the critical need to shield witnesses from threats and intimidation and Section 2(1)(d) of BSA which now enables electronic or digital record on emails, documents on computers, laptop or smartphone, messages and voice mail messages stored on digital devices under definition of documents can also be referred for protection of women from harassment at workplace.
- iii. Further, the Labour Codes, collectively include provisions to promote participation of women in workforce in a dignified manner and with adequate safety measures adopted by the employers. Occupational Safety, Health, and Working Conditions Code, 2020 consolidates and amends laws regulating the safety, health, and working conditions of workers, with specific provisions to ensure the safety of women at the workplace.
- iv. The Ministry of Women and Child Development recently launched the SHe-Box portal duly encompassing various provisions of ‘the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, 2013’ (SH Act). This portal provides a publicly available centralised repository of information related to Internal Committees (ICs) and Local Committees (LCs) formed across the country, whether in government or private sector. It also provides a common platform to file complaints and track the status of such complaints. The portal includes a feature where complaints registered on it will be automatically forwarded to the IC/ LC of the workplaces concerned within the Central Ministries/ Departments, States/ UTs and in Private sector. The portal provides for designating a nodal officer for every workplace who is required to ensure updation of data/ information on a regular basis for real time monitoring of complaints.
- v. Under Nirbhaya Fund, Government has taken several measures to improve safety of women:

- a. One Stop Centre (OSC) component of Mission Shakti Umbrella Scheme, which is fully funded by the central government is implemented across the country since 1st April, 2015. It provides integrated support and assistance under one roof to women affected by violence and those in distress, both in private and public spaces. It also provides an integrated range of services including medical aid, legal aid and advice, temporary shelter, police assistance, psycho-social counselling to needy women. 843 OSCs are operational across the country and over 11.19 lakh women have been assisted upto 31st March, 2025.
 - b. To ensure that the Police Stations are more women friendly and approachable, as they would be the first and single point of contact for any woman walking into a police station, 14,658 Women Help Desks (WHDs) have been set up, of which 13,743 are headed by women police officers.
 - c. To provide help and support to needy women and women in distress, Emergency Response Support System (ERSS-112) has been established in all 36 States and UTs for various emergencies, with computer aided dispatch of field/ police resources. Since its launch, over 43 crore calls have been handled so far. In addition to ERSS, a fully functional dedicated Women helpline (WHL-181) is operational in 35 States/ UTs except West Bengal. The WHL has also been integrated with ERSS. So far, Women Helplines have handled over 2.30 crore calls and assisted over 88.24 lakh women.
 - d. To ensure safety of public places where women work and live, various components under Safe City Projects have been implemented in 8 Cities (namely Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai). To ensure safe transportation for women, rail and road transport projects like Integrated Emergency Response Management System (IERMS), Video Surveillance System at Konkan Railway, Artificial Intelligence (AI) based Facial Recognition System (FRS) integrated with Video surveillance Systems, including Command-and-Control Centre at 7 major railway stations and tabs for safety of women passengers on board the train by Ministry of Railways, and projects like Vehicle Tracking Platform with command and control centre across States/ UTs, and some State specific projects like Uttar Pradesh Road transport Corporation (UPSRTC), Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC), etc. by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, have been implemented.
- vi. 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. 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.
- vii. Further, the Ministry of Women and Child Development also administers scheme "Samarthya" under Mission Shakti in which the component of Shakti Sadan is for relief and rehabilitation of women in difficult circumstances.

- viii. The 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 etc. to sensitize the people about the safety and security of women and also about various provisions of the legislation and policies etc. 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. In respect of the registered complaints, NCW takes up the matter with stakeholders especially the Police Authorities to ensure that the complaints are redressed and brought to logical conclusion.
- ix. The Ministry has launched the 'Mission Shakti Portal' with all functional features on January 22, 2025. This portal aims to enhance accessibility of various government services for women, establish quality mechanisms for rescue, protection, and rehabilitation, and build the capacity of functionaries and duty holders under various schemes and legislations.

**STATE/UT-WISE CASES REGISTERED UNDER CRIME AGAINST WOMEN
DURING 2018-2022**

SL	State/UT	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1	Andhra Pradesh	16438	17746	17089	17752	25503
2	Arunachal Pradesh	368	317	281	366	335
3	Assam	27687	30025	26352	29046	14148
4	Bihar	16920	18587	15359	17950	20222
5	Chhattisgarh	8587	7689	7385	7344	8693
6	Goa	362	329	219	224	273
7	Gujarat	8329	8799	8028	7348	7731
8	Haryana	14326	14683	13000	16658	16743
9	Himachal Pradesh	1633	1636	1614	1599	1551
10	Jharkhand	7083	8760	7630	8110	7678
11	Karnataka	13514	13828	12680	14468	17813
12	Kerala	10461	11462	10139	13539	15213
13	Madhya Pradesh	28942	27560	25640	30673	32765
14	Maharashtra	35497	37144	31954	39526	45331
15	Manipur	271	266	247	302	248
16	Meghalaya	571	558	568	685	690
17	Mizoram	249	170	172	176	147
18	Nagaland	75	43	39	54	49
19	Odisha	20274	23183	25489	31352	23648
20	Punjab	5302	5886	4838	5662	5572
21	Rajasthan	27866	41550	34535	40738	45058
22	Sikkim	172	125	140	130	179
23	Tamil Nadu	5822	5934	6630	8501	9207
24	Telangana	16027	18394	17791	20865	22066
25	Tripura	907	1070	874	807	752
26	Uttar Pradesh	59445	59853	49385	56083	65743
27	Uttarakhand	2817	2541	2846	3431	4337
28	West Bengal	30394	29859	36439	35884	34738
	TOTAL STATE(S)	360339	387997	357363	409273	426433
29	A&N Islands	147	135	143	169	178
30	Chandigarh	442	515	301	343	325
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu+	54	82	61	99	126
32	Delhi	13640	13395	10093	14277	14247
33	Jammu & Kashmir*	3437	3069	3405	3937	3716
34	Ladakh	-	-	9	18	15
35	Lakshadweep	11	38	15	9	16
36	Puducherry	166	95	113	153	200
	TOTAL UT(S)	17897	17329	14140	19005	18823
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	378236	405326	371503	428278	445256

Annexure-II**Crime Heads-wise Cases Registered under Crimes against Women during 2018-2022**

SL	Crime Heads	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1	Murder with Rape/Gang Rape	294	284	219	284	248
2	Dowry Deaths	7167	7141	6966	6753	6450
3	Abetment to Suicide of Women	5037	5008	5040	5292	4963
4	Miscarriage	213	238	239	196	236
5	Acid Attack	131	150	105	102	124
6	Attempt to Acid Attack	37	46	33	48	38
7	Cruelty by Husband or his relatives	103272	124934	111549	136234	140019
8	Kidnapping and Abduction of Women	72709	72681	62300	75369	85310
9	Human Trafficking	854	960	646	914	781
10	Selling of Minor Girls	40	20	12	12	8
11	Buying of Minor Girls	8	8	1	2	3
12	Rape	33356	32032	28046	31677	31516
13	Attempt to Commit Rape	4097	3941	3741	3800	3288
14	Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty	89097	88259	85392	89200	83344
15	Insult to the Modesty of Women	6992	6937	7065	7788	8972
A	Total IPC Crimes against Women	323304	342639	311354	357671	365300
16	Dowry Prohibition Act	12826	13307	10366	13568	13479
17	Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act	1459	1179	868	1071	946
18	Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act	579	553	446	507	468
19	Cyber Crimes/Information Technology Act	1244	1635	2334	2597	2940
20	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act	38802	45989	46123	52836	62095
21	Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act	22	24	12	28	28
B	Total SLL Crimes against Women	54932	62687	60149	70607	79956
	Total Crime against Women	378236	405326	371503	428278	445256

Source: Crime in India

Note : '+' Combined data of erstwhile D&N Haveli UT and Daman & Diu UT for 2018, 2019

** Data of erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir State including Ladakh for 2018, 2019
