

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 478
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2026

CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POCSO ACT

478. SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

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

- (a) the State-wise/UT-wise details of crimes against children registered, chargesheeted, pending investigation, pending trial and conviction rate during the last five years;
- (b) whether Government has assessed the reasons for the low charge sheets and conviction rates and the growing pendency of cases;
- (c) whether Government has reviewed the functioning of POCSO Special Courts and Fast Track Courts, details thereof, and
- (d) the measures taken to ensure time-bound investigation and speedy disposal of cases involving children and the outcomes achieved thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): As per the data maintained by National Crime Records Bureau(NCRB), State & UT-wise Cases Registered, Cases Chargesheeted, Cases Pending Investigation at the end of the year, Conviction Rate and Cases Pending Trial at the end of the year under Crimes against Children during 2020-2024 are given at **Annexure**. The Latest published data pertains to the year 2024.

(b): The Government has undertaken various measures to strengthen the implementation of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and to facilitate timely investigation and trial of cases. The reasons for the pendency of cases and variations in chargesheet and conviction rates depend on multiple factors, including the complexity of individual cases,

availability of evidence, completion of investigation, witness examination, and the judicial process.

To address these challenges, the Government has taken several initiatives, including strengthening institutional mechanisms under the Mission Vatsalya Scheme, providing financial assistance to States and Union Territories for the establishment and functioning of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs), capacity building and training of stakeholders, issuance of advisories and guidelines for effective implementation of the POCSO Act, strengthening child-friendly procedures, and promoting greater coordination among law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and other stakeholders. The Government also regularly reviews the implementation of the Act with States and Union Territories to ensure effective investigation, prosecution, and speedy disposal of cases.

(c): The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 provides for designation of Special Courts for speedy trial of offences under the Act. Further, establishment and functioning of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs), including exclusive POCSO Courts, are implemented by the Department of Justice under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in coordination with the respective State Governments and UT Administrations. Periodic review of the implementation of the Scheme is undertaken by the Department of Justice.

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for the establishment of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs), including exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) Courts, was launched in October, 2019 for the expeditious trial and disposal of pending cases relating to rape and offences under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. The FTSCs have been set up and operationalized under the Nirbhaya Fund. The Scheme stands extended up to 30th September, 2026.

The impact of the FTSC Scheme has been assessed through third-party evaluations from time to time while seeking extension of the Scheme, the last one having been conducted by the NITI Aayog. The Third party report of NITI Aayog has recommended continuation of the FTSCs Scheme taking into consideration its effectiveness in achieving the core objectives of speedy disposal of cases relating to women and children, reduction of pendency, and alignment with national priorities on justice delivery and women's safety.

(d): **Section 193 (2)** of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) 2023 states that the process of investigation in relation to an offence under Sections 64 (punishment for rape), 65 (punishment for rape in certain cases), 66 (punishment for causing death or resulting in persistent vegetative state of victim), 67 (sexual intercourse by husband upon his wife during separation), 68 (sexual intercourse by a person in authority), 70 (gang rape), 71 (punishment for repeated offenders) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNSS) 2023 or under Sections 4 (punishment for penetrative sexual assault), 6 (punishment for aggravated penetrative sexual assault), 8 (punishment for sexual assault), or Section 10 (punishment for aggravated sexual assault) of the POCSO Act, 2012 shall be completed within two months from the date on which the information was recorded by the officer in charge of the Police Station.

Further, **Section 346 (1) of the BNSS 2023** states that in every inquiry or trial the proceedings shall be continued from day-to-day basis until all the witnesses in attendance have been examined,

unless the Court finds the adjournment of the same beyond the following day to necessary for reasons to be recorded:

Provided that when the inquiry or trial relates to an offence under section 64, section 65, section 66, section 67, section 68, section 70 or section 71 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 the inquiry or trial shall be completed within a period of two months from the date of filing of the chargesheet.

The **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012**, which came into force on 19 June 2012, was enacted to protect children below the age of 18 years from sexual assault, sexual harassment, and the use of children for pornographic purposes, including Child Sexual Exploitative and Abuse Material (CSEAM). The Act is gender-neutral and extends protection to all children. It provides for child-friendly procedures during investigation and trial with the objective of minimizing trauma to the child victim and ensuring speedy delivery of justice.

- i. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act, 2019, which came into force on 16 August 2019, further strengthened the penal framework of the Act by enhancing punishments for various offences, including the provision of the death penalty for specified aggravated penetrative sexual assault offences.
- ii. The POCSO Act, read with the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Rules, 2020, lays down a comprehensive child-centric framework for the care, protection, rehabilitation, and compensation of child victims. The Rules provide for immediate medical assistance, psychological support, legal aid, rehabilitation services, and compensation, while assigning specific responsibilities to the police, the Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), Special Courts, and other authorities to act in the best interests of the child throughout the criminal justice process.
- iii. From its inception, the Act has incorporated time-bound safeguards at the stage of reporting offences. In this regard, Section 19(5) of the POCSO Act provides that where the Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) or the local police is satisfied that the child against whom an offence has been committed is in need of care and protection, it shall, after recording the reasons in writing, make immediate arrangements to provide such care and protection, including admission of the child to a shelter home or the nearest hospital, within twenty-four hours of the report, as may be prescribed. Further, Section 19(6) mandates that the SJPU or the local police shall, without unnecessary delay and in any case within twenty-four hours, report the matter to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) and the Special Court, or, where no Special Court has been designated, to the Court of Session, along with details regarding the child's need for care and protection and the measures taken in this regard.
- iv. With regard to the investigation stage, the POCSO Act does not prescribe an independent procedural framework or a separate timeline for completion of investigation. Investigations into offences under the Act are carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, read with the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, together with the special reporting obligations and procedural safeguards contained in Sections 19 to 22 of the POCSO Act.
- v. The Act also prescribes time-bound safeguards at the trial stage. Under Section 35 of the POCSO Act, the evidence of the child is required to be recorded within thirty days of the

Special Court taking cognizance of the offence, and the trial should, as far as possible, be completed within one year from the date of taking cognizance. These statutory timelines have been part of the Act since its commencement and were not substantively altered by the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act, 2019.

- vi. Accordingly, the timeline for completion of investigation is governed by the provisions of the BNSS, 2023, which apply to investigations under the POCSO Act.

Annexure

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED Q.NO. 478 FOR ANSWER ON 22.07.2026 REGARDING STATE AND UT-WISE CASES REGISTERED (CR), CASES CHARGESHEETED (CCS), CASES PENDING INVESTIGATION AT THE END OF THE YEAR (CPIEY), CONVICTION RATE (CVR) AND CASES PENDING TRIAL AT THE END OF THE YEAR (CPTEY) UNDER CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN DURING 2020-2024

SL	State/UT	2020					2021				
		CR	CCS	CPIEY	CVR	CPTEY	CR	CCS	CPIEY	CVR	CPTEY
1	Andhra Pradesh	2648	2103	2837	9.2	6421	2669	2637	2683	10.4	8224
2	Arunachal Pradesh	113	71	168	66.7	415	162	110	172	91.7	514
3	Assam	4622	2863	6083	8.9	13367	5282	3115	5808	11.2	15713
4	Bihar	6591	3850	8119	47.6	21345	6894	5009	7743	39.8	25743
5	Chhattisgarh	5056	3550	2100	41.2	15857	6001	4169	2176	31.9	18485
6	Goa	125	86	50	10.5	783	151	105	53	13.8	853
7	Gujarat	4075	3288	511	12.9	23268	4515	3587	481	14.9	26240
8	Haryana	4338	2146	726	24.6	7137	5700	2418	924	26.1	8628
9	Himachal Pradesh	636	357	142	40.2	1844	740	406	114	34.1	2117
10	Jharkhand	1795	1171	1737	66.9	3404	1867	1353	1987	49.8	4456
11	Karnataka	5471	3447	2595	46.1	13911	7261	4673	2188	29.2	16660
12	Kerala	3941	4030	2987	53.3	17829	4536	4985	2259	19.5	21396
13	Madhya Pradesh	17008	11601	4694	37.0	50914	19173	11896	4359	32.2	56544
14	Maharashtra	14371	8451	15682	27.3	57585	17261	9438	16041	23.3	64374
15	Manipur	125	73	742	50.0	364	143	88	772	53.3	435
16	Meghalaya	415	285	600	58.8	1414	481	395	586	73.5	1736
17	Mizoram	142	127	29	75.7	535	122	111	30	86.1	610
18	Nagaland	31	26	16	80.0	135	51	37	21	71.4	165
19	Odisha	6330	3226	3364	16.9	15228	7899	4073	3479	11.8	18749
20	Punjab	2121	1579	2176	33.7	3876	2556	1537	2504	25.2	4632
21	Rajasthan	6580	3606	1205	58.6	16578	7653	4384	1079	44.4	19212
22	Sikkim	147	103	49	34.4	332	149	113	54	31.7	385
23	Tamil Nadu	4338	3184	3811	32.9	10654	6064	4153	5317	26.6	13275
24	Telangana	4200	3268	2924	38.0	8843	5667	4413	2787	40.0	11374
25	Tripura	260	217	129	29.3	1169	236	243	76	30.6	1319
26	Uttar Pradesh	15271	12105	2953	72.3	67264	16838	12654	2330	65.6	76259
27	Uttarakhand	1066	740	642	73.5	2667	1245	1026	625	56.3	3597
28	West Bengal	10248	6662	4413	5.8	34169	9523	7870	4353	10.3	41183

	TOTAL STATE(S)	122064	82215	71484	45.0	397308	140839	94998	71001	33.6	462878
29	A&N Islands	141	147	8	35.7	715	124	118	8	15.7	691
30	Chandigarh	209	98	196	31.3	246	234	78	187	37.0	296
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	67	56	41	11.1	134	104	55	30	6.4	148
32	Delhi	5362	2284	8066	69.3	16501	7118	2304	8080	52.4	18655
33	Jammu & Kashmir	606	313	364	33.3	1224	845	457	407	16.7	1614
34	Ladakh	2	0	4	-	3	1	2	2	100.0	4
35	Lakshadweep	9	6	22	66.7	31	17	19	18	0.0	48
36	Puducherry	71	66	50	63.6	251	122	107	45	-	358
	TOTAL UT(S)	6467	2970	8751	50.5	19105	8565	3140	8777	28.8	21814
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	128531	85185	80235	45.1	416413	149404	98138	79778	33.5	484692

Source: Crime in
India

Conviction Rate = (Cases Convicted) / (Cases in
which Trials Completed) x 100

STATE AND UT-WISE CASES REGISTERED (CR), CASES CHARGESHEETED (CCS), CASES PENDING INVESTIGATION AT THE END OF THE YEAR (CPIEY), CONVICTION RATE (CVR) AND CASES PENDING TRIAL AT THE END OF THE YEAR (CPT EY) UNDER CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN DURING 2022-2024

S L	State/UT	2022					2023					2024				
		CR	CC S	CPI EY	CV R	CPT EY	CR	CC S	CPI EY	CV R	CPT EY	CR	CC S	CPI EY	CV R	CPT EY
1	Andhra Pradesh	3308	2895	2708	8.0	9760	2844	2606	2695	5.8	9962	2633	2140	2919	6.5	10154
2	Arunachal Pradesh	143	116	154	77.8	612	176	126	150	57.9	713	152	112	150	52.4	819
3	Assam	4084	3336	2867	12.0	16719	10174	9585	1484	18.4	21472	5871	4819	1490	22.3	23385
4	Bihar	8122	5390	8626	69.2	30186	9906	6511	9647	63.9	35336	13349	6720	13944	52.7	42419
5	Chhattisgarh	6177	4252	1978	56.7	20220	5904	3603	2183	27.8	21270	6964	4039	1925	23.9	22225
6	Goa	184	132	47	15.2	912	196	118	64	6.9	968	207	114	77	8.0	1004
7	Gujarat	4964	3691	679	9.7	28728	5083	3705	632	13.7	30244	5394	4245	548	19.2	32586
8	Haryana	6138	2427	1226	28.6	9516	6401	2480	1408	27.2	10009	7547	2726	1599	28.7	10701
9	Himachal Pradesh	740	374	107	39.0	2230	704	341	94	24.1	2190	794	310	142	27.7	2096
10	Jharkhand	1917	1710	2006	43.9	5451	1626	1438	1932	41.4	5910	1555	1317	2014	39.8	6364
11	Karnataka	7988	4430	2602	23.6	18100	8929	5581	2131	15.8	20274	9568	5396	1948	20.8	21436
12	Kerala	5640	5856	1665	15.1	23951	5903	5398	1623	18.1	25343	5929	5377	1749	34.0	26501
13	Madhya Pradesh	20415	12309	4683	37.0	60506	22393	12952	5724	33.8	63998	21908	11808	6223	39.3	68566
14	Maharashtra	20762	9627	18095	19.8	69820	22390	11276	18728	18.6	76644	24171	12105	19888	17.6	85879
15	Manipur	120	78	795	65.2	488	85	50	821	47.1	516	107	84	811	19.0	575
16	Meghalaya	496	386	569	40.7	2000	512	356	613	53.8	2206	556	313	732	41.9	2226
17	Mizoram	135	131	32	75.9	657	146	134	36	70.8	676	176	157	55	87.3	767
18	Nagaland	35	36	16	66.7	189	26	22	10	81.8	200	52	34	23	71.4	220
19	Odisha	8240	3672	3022	12.6	21424	8577	3291	3664	13.4	22243	9528	3064	4556	11.0	23516

20	Punjab	249 4	161 6	2752	22. 8	5207	246 2	181 6	2454	28. 2	5674	246 8	144 8	2754	26. 2	6091
21	Rajasthan	937 0	511 8	1147	49. 6	2283 8	105 77	493 9	1838	47. 3	2607 7	899 2	472 2	1220	45. 9	2814 8
22	Sikkim	159	106	51	24. 1	371	139	87	55	41. 3	374	122	109	14	22. 6	359
23	Tamil Nadu	658 0	589 1	5569	31. 3	1632 7	696 8	588 6	6260	27. 5	1860 3	100 46	867 0	7054	35. 5	2270 1
24	Telangana	565 7	509 5	1790	30. 0	1406 9	611 3	414 3	2218	20. 6	1553 2	676 7	443 6	2500	38. 1	1693 5
25	Tripura	220	185	73	28. 9	1344	255	223	70	28. 8	1363	270	215	102	24. 2	1474
26	Uttar Pradesh	186 82	130 47	2740	68. 3	8448 2	188 52	138 95	2473	52. 6	8998 3	222 22	158 09	2273	66. 5	9716 2
27	Uttarakhand	170 6	115 8	568	55. 0	4635	171 0	104 8	500	61. 3	5442	206 8	122 6	383	48. 1	6216
28	West Bengal	895 0	747 2	3957	21. 1	4722 9	885 3	703 9	4593	8.1	5245 5	904 4	665 2	5046	5.6	5716 9
	TOTAL STAT E(S)	153 426	100 536	7052 4	33. 6	5179 71	167 904	108 649	7410 0	28. 1	5656 77	178 460	108 167	8213 9	34. 1	6176 94
29	A&N Islands	146	133	6	24. 1	738	161	135	13	12. 5	825	138	122	14	9.0	847
30	Chandigarh	224	92	164	42. 9	295	294	109	190	40. 2	298	255	68	258	35. 1	305
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	107	69	30	8.1	155	123	70	30	9.2	159	84	44	29	13. 0	180
32	Delhi	746 8	215 5	8997	42. 1	2018 8	776 9	274 5	8082	42. 3	2093 1	766 2	239 3	8072	33. 0	2251 6
33	Jammu & Kash mir	920	456	394	11. 7	1931	910	413	449	8.7	2217	887	444	537	9.4	2517
34	Ladakh	8	6	3	0.0	9	7	5	2	0.0	12	17	12	3	-	24
35	Lakshadweep	11	14	12	100 .0	60	11	7	12	100 .0	64	6	3	15	0.0	66
36	Puducherry	139	96	68	0.0	453	156	157	52	29. 7	572	193	173	54	28. 6	738
	TOTAL UT(S)	902 3	302 1	9674	34. 7	2382 9	943 1	364 1	8830	38. 8	2507 8	924 2	325 9	8982	27. 5	2719 3
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	162 449	103 557	8019 8	33. 6	5418 00	177 335	112 290	8293 0	28. 5	5907 55	187 702	111 426	9112 1	33. 9	6448 87

Source: Crime in India

Conviction Rate = (Cases Convicted) / (Cases in which Trials Completed) x 100
