

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3272**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH DECEMBER, 2016/AGRAHAYANA 15, 1938
(SAKA)**

BRANDING WOMEN AS WITCH

3272. SHRI SIRAJUDDIN AJMAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of branding women as Witch are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of such cases registered and women killed and the action taken against the guilty during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to stop such cases in future?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)**

(a) & (b): As per information provided by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a total of 161, 160 and 136 cases were reported during 2013, 2014 and 2015 respectively under murder (Section 302 IPC) and Culpable Homicide not amounting to murder (Section 304 IPC) with the motives of witchcraft in the country. State/UT-wise number of cases

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reported under murder (section 302 IPC) & culpable homicide not amounting to murder (section 304 IPC) with the motive of witchcraft during 2013-2015 is enclosed as Annexure- I.

(c): As per the seventh schedule to the Constitution of India `Police` and `Public Order` are State subjects and, as such, the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime, lies with the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. Harassment/torture/murder etc. which are associated with the witchcraft are already punishable crimes under Indian Penal Code (IPC). National Commission for Women (NCW) conducts seminars and workshops from time to time to create awareness on the issue and discourage such practices.

State/UT wise no. of cases reported under murder (section 302 IPC) and culpable homicide not amounting to murder (section 304 IPC) for the purpose of witchcraft during 2013-2015

SL	State/UT	2013			2014			2015		
		Murder (section 302 IPC)	Culpable homicide not amounting to murder (section 304 IPC)	Total cases in which person killed due to witchcraft	Murder (section 302 IPC)	Culpable homicide not amounting to murder (section 304 IPC)	Total cases in which person killed due to witchcraft	Murder (section 302 IPC)	Culpable homicide not amounting to murder (section 304 IPC)	Total cases in which person killed due to witchcraft
1	Andhra Pradesh	15	0	15	2	0	2	1	0	1
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Bihar	0	0	0	6	0	6	2	0	2
5	Chhattisgarh	7	0	7	16	0	16	10	0	10
6	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	4	0	4	10	0	10	13	0	13
8	Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
11	Jharkhand	54	1	55	47	0	47	32	0	32
12	Karnataka	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
13	Kerala	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
14	Madhya Pradesh	11	0	11	24	0	24	20	0	20
15	Maharashtra	10	0	10	5	0	5	5	0	5
16	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Meghalaya	8	0	8	1	1	2	0	0	0
18	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Nagaland	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Odisha	24	0	24	32	0	32	26	0	26
21	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Rajasthan	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1
23	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	Tamil Nadu	16	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	Telangana			0	8	0	8	14	0	14
26	Tripura	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
27	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	3	2	5	3	0	3
28	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	West Bengal	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	2
	TOTAL STATE(S)	160	1	161	156	4	160	133	1	134
30	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
31	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	D&N Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Delhi UT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	160	1	161	156	4	160	135	1	136

