

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2472
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2018

VIRGINITY TESTS

2472. SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that forced virginity tests are being conducted on brides by the elderly in the Kanjarbhat community in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has received information regarding this and responded to the youth protest against this practice and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any data on the number of reported cases of forced virginity tests and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to address this issue?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)

- (a) Some newspapers have reported that forced virginity tests are being conducted on brides by the elderly in the Kanjarbhat community.
- (b) As per the report published in 'The Hindu' on 28th February 2018, Maharashtra Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Ranjit Patil while responding to a calling attention motion tabled by Shiv Sena's Neelam Gorhe has assured the State Legislative Council that caste panchayats of the Kanjarbhat community would face action, if they compelled newly married women to undergo a 'virginity test'.
- (c) The Ministry of Women and Child Development has no data in this regard.
- (d) Maharashtra Minister of State for Home Shri Ranjit Patil has stated that the police have been ordered to register a criminal case, if a panchayat forces a woman to undergo such a test.
