

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *1**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11th DECEMBER, 2018 / AGRAHAYANA 20, 1940
(SAKA)**

VIOLENCE AGAINST MINOR GIRLS

***1. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
 SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that two cases of rape of minor girls are reported every hour in the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (c) whether the conviction rate in such cases is low at around 28 per cent in the country, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**
- (d) whether there is any monitoring mechanism to keep a check on corporal punishment, the most commonly experienced form of violence against minor girls across the country and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to protect minor girls from such heinous crime in the country along with the achievements thereof?**

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.**

**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *1
FOR 11.12.2018**

(a) & (b): As per the latest available information published by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the details regarding cases of rape of children (below the age of 18 years) registered under sections 4 & 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 read with section 376 Indian Penal Code from 2014 to 2016 are as below:

Year	Cases registered
2014	18661
2015	19654
2016	19765

NCRB does not maintain data in respect of rape of minor girls separately.

The increase in the number of cases being reported may be inter-alia, due to provision of punishment of six months extendable to two years for non-registration of FIRs in cases of crimes against women which was incorporated in the law through the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, advisories issued by MHA in the matter to States, sensitization of police and public awareness on lodging of cases.

(c): The conviction rate for offences under sections 4 & 6 of POCSO Act, 2012 read with section 376 Indian Penal Code was 28.2 percent during 2016. The reasons for this may include witnesses turning hostile, lengthy legal processes, delay in reporting resulting in loss of forensic evidence etc.

(d): National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is the monitoring authority for child's right to education under the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009. NCPCR has formulated Guidelines for Eliminating Corporal Punishment in Schools and the same are available at:
<http://ncpcr.gov.in/showfile.php?lid=153>

As part of its monitoring role, NCPCR also conducts workshops for creating awareness of different stakeholders regarding section 17 of RTE Act, 2009 and the guidelines on eliminating corporal punishment in schools.

Ministry of Human Resource Development has also issued Advisory dated 26th March, 2014, under section 35(1) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory (RTE) Act, 2009 for elimination of corporal punishment in schools. Further, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued circular dated 12/09/2017 for safety of children in schools. The circular inter-alia makes provision for ban on corporal punishment in schools.

(e): Several measures have been taken for enhancing the safety of women and children. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018, provides for enhanced punishment for crimes such as rape including provision of death penalty for the offence of rape on women below 12 years; completion of investigation, filing of charge sheet and trial in rape cases in 2 months and appeals against

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conviction or acquittal to be disposed of within 6 months. The other steps taken in this regard include modernization and capacity building of forensic labs for facilitating timely investigation, development of a National Database on Sexual Offenders to facilitate investigation and tracking of Sexual Offenders across the country, a project for developing an Emergency Response Support System based on a Pan-India 24x7 Helpline Number 112 and a scheme for setting up One Stop Centre in every district across the country.

In addition, the NCPCR has launched POCSO e-Box/e-mail/sms on NCPCR website for easy and direct reporting of POCSO cases to the Commission. Apart from development of manuals such as the manual on “Guidelines on Safety and Security of children in school settings”, it has conducted POCSO Awareness Campaigns.
