

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1152**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18th DECEMBER, 2018 / AGRAHAYANA 27, 1940
(SAKA)**

RISING RATE OF ACQUITTALS

1152. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of acquittals in criminal cases is on the rise over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether the lack of a law to protect witness is the main reason behind such acquittals; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to bring in such a law and plug the gaps in the criminal justice system?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. As per the latest publish report of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Conviction Rate (CVR) of IPC crimes at national level during 2014 - 2016 is as under :

Year	Conviction Rate (CVR)
2014	45.1
2015	46.9
2016	46.8

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(c) & (d): Lack of Witness Protection is one of the reasons amongst others for low conviction rate. Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India and State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and for prosecuting the criminals through their law enforcement agencies. The Ministry of Home Affairs have issued advisories to the States and UTs, from time to time, to maintain law and order. These advisories are available in the Ministry's website viz www.mha.gov.in. However, a Witness Protection Scheme, 2018 was prepared by the Ministry of Home Affairs and submitted to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India; Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 5.12.2018 in the Writ Petition No. 156/2016 has approved the said Witness Protection Scheme, 2018. The scheme has come into effect from the date of the Judgement.
