

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 21**

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

COW VIGILANTISM

21. DR. P.K. BIJU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been rampant lynching of people across the country in the name of cow vigilantism and child lifting;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents reported during each of the last two years;

(c) the action taken by the Government to prevent the incidents of mob lynching in various parts of the country;

(d) whether the Government intends to enact a law in this regard; and

(e) if so, the time by which such legislation is likely to be enacted and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) does not maintain specific data with respect to lynching incidents in the country in the name of cow vigilantism & child lifting.

(c) to (e): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to 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. State Governments are also competent to enact legislation in this behalf. The Ministry of Home Affairs have issued advisories to States and UTs from time to time, to maintain law and order and ensure that any person who takes law into his/her own hand is punished promptly as per law. The Ministry of Home Affairs have issued an advisory on 09.08.2016 to all States/UTs for taking prompt and strict action against miscreants who take law into their own hands in the name of protection of cow. An advisory dated 04.07.2018 on the issue of incidents of lynching of persons by mobs in some States, fuelled by rumours of lifting/kidnapping of children was issued to the States and UTs wherein they were advised to keep watch on circulation of fake news and rumours having potential for violence, and take all required measures to counter them effectively and to deal firmly with persons taking law into their own hands. Further, advisories dated 23.07.2018 and 25.09.2018 were issued to the State Governments/UTs Administration in pursuance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Judgement dated 17.07.2018 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 754/2016, incorporating the key directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court for taking measures by States/UTs to curb incidents of mob lynching in the country. Copies of these Advisories are available on Ministry of Home Affairs' website: <https://mha.gov.in>. Government through audio-visual media has generated public awareness to curb the menace of mob lynching.