

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1023**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2019

**ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS TO ENSURE SAFETY OF WOMEN**

+1023. SHRI LALLU SINGH:

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

- (a) the measures taken for enforcement of various special laws enacted to ensure the safety of women;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding increase in crime against women despite having stringent laws, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the progress made in the implementation of 'one stop centre' to ensure consolidated support and assistance to women; and
- (d) whether awareness has been created among implementing agencies regarding enforcement of women safety laws, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a): Safety of girls and women in the country is of utmost priority to the Government. Efforts have all along been made to establish mechanisms to provide safe and secure environment for women to move around, work and live. On the legislation front, women specific laws such as "The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation And Prevention Of Misuse) Act, 1994"; "the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005", "the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012", "The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013" have been enacted. Recently, "the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 and the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018" have also been enacted making the punishment for offences like rape more stringent, besides recognizing various other activities such as voyeurism, stalking, acid attack etc. as offences against women.

The Ministry has also enacted the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.

Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing scheme of One Stop Centre to provide integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence and a Scheme for Universalisation of Women Helpline to provide 24 hours immediate and emergency response to women affected by violence. To address the issue of declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR), in age group of 0-6 years, Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) programme has been launched.

Ministry recognizes that the incidence of crime against women and children cannot be controlled unless mindset of people, wherever needed, change for the better. Awareness generation among men and women in the society through workshops, seminars, street plays are being undertaken in the field for this purpose. Further, advertisements in the press and electronic media educating peoples about issues of domestic violence, Child Sex Ratio and Child Marriage, etc., are also being taken up. Platforms such as the International Women's Day and the National Girl Child Day are used to create awareness on issues related to women.

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 States/UT Administrations. Ministry of Home Affairs has taken following steps:

- i. Ministry of Home Affairs has circulated the Model Poison Rules on 30.08.2013 to all States/UTs to regulate the sale of acid.
- ii. A comprehensive Advisory on expediting cases of Acid Attack and to provide treatment and compensation to victims has been issued on 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2015. States and UTs were advised to take appropriate action on implementation of section 166B of the IPC which deals with punishment for failure to treat victims.
- iii. A separate portal for Cyber-Crime against women and children has been commenced.
- iv. In order to facilitate better investigation and prosecution in rape cases, modernization and capacity building of forensic labs has been undertaken.
- v. National Database for sexual offenders has been set up for maintaining database of sexual offenders.

Further, Ministry of Home Affairs has issued advisories to States/UTs to take measures for prevention of crimes against women, stressing on mandatory registration of FIRs, providing on-line complaint filing system, increasing representation of women in Police, gender sensitisation of police, deployment of Special Mahila Police Volunteers, activating victim compensation fund, setting up of Anti-human Trafficking units, etc.

- (b): Ministry of Women and Child Development, Gol has not conducted any study regarding increase in crime against women.
- (c): Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India has decided to set up at least one One Stop Centre (OSC) under its One Stop Centre Scheme in every district of the country with the objective to provide integrated support and assistance to violence affected women under one roof by facilitating immediate emergency and non-emergency access to a range of services including medical help, police facilitation, legal and psychological counselling and temporary shelter to women affected by violence. The Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India has given approval to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for setting up of One Stop Centres in all the 718 districts of the country.
- (d): The Ministry is regularly monitoring and reviewing the implementation of One Stop Centres and other schemes and programmes of this Ministry relating to the enforcement of women safety laws through workshops/conferences with State Governments/UT Administrations and visits by the officers of the Ministry.