GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 469
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2022

SEXUAL ASSAULTS AGAINST WOMEN

469.   SHRIMATI MALA RAJYA LAXMI SHAH
SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL

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

(a)   whether the Government has taken the cognizance of increasing number of sexual assaults against women;
(b)   if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise with special reference to Uttarakhand and Bundelkhand region; and
(c)   the steps being taken by the Government to check such crimes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b) : National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes data on crimes, including crime against women (including sexual assault against women), in its publication "Crime in India". The said report is available for the year upto 2021. The State / UT-wise details of crime against women for the last 3 years upto 2021 are placed at Annexure.

(c) : ''Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including investigation and prosecution of crime against women and children rests primarily with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws.

Keeping in mind the vision articulated in Constitutional provisions, there has been enactment of various legislations such as the Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Law Amendments of 2013 and 2018, the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 which address the issue of gender inequality, discrimination and violence faced by women.

The Government has also undertaken several schematic interventions in order to ensuring safety and security of women. These include One Stop Centres (OSCs); Universalisation of Women Helplines (WHL), Shakti Sadan, Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) which is a pan-India single number (112)/ mobile app based system for emergencies; a cyber-crime reporting portal to report obscene content; safe city projects in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai) including infrastructure, technology adoption and capacity building in community through awareness programmes, training and skill development programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers; distribution of Sexual Assault Evidence Collection (SAEC) Kits to States/ UTs; establishment of state of the art DNA Laboratory at CFSL, Chandigarh; assistance to 24 States/ UTs to strengthen Forensic Science Laboratories; setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) for speedy disposal of cases of rape and cases under POCSO Act; setting up/ strengthening of Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) in all districts of the country; setting up/ strengthening of Women Help Desks (WHDs) at Police Stations etc. The Government has also put in place Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences, an online analytic tool for tracking and monitoring of investigation. A National Database on Sexual Offenders (NDSO) has also been created.

Under Nirbhaya Fund, Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has also undertaken several initiatives, which, inter-alia includes training and skill development programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers, distribution of Sexual Assault Evidence Collection (SAEC) Kits to States/ UTs. BPR&D has also prepared Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for 'Women Help Desk at Police Stations' to ensure smooth functioning of Women Help Desks by focusing on four critical components viz. infrastructure, training, human resource development and response mechanism. A book titled 'Women's Safety and Security- a Handbook for First Responders and Investigators in the Police' has also been prepared for the purpose of prevention and investigation of crime against women with specific reference to the crime of sexual assault, which includes investigation, victim compensation and rehabilitation. Emphasis has been laid upon appropriate behavioural and attitudinal skills of the police in course of prevention and detection of crime against women and children and interaction with victims of crime. Webinars on women safety with sensitivity, gender sensitization of police personnel etc. have also been organized by BPR&D.

Ministry of Women and Child Development has engaged the services of National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) for providing basic and advanced training under the project named 'Stree Manoraksha' to the staff of One Stop Centres (OSCs) across the country on handling psycho-social and mental health care needs to support the women facing violence and women in distress.

In addition, Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Home Affairs have issued advisories to States/ UTs from time to time on various issues pertaining to safety and security of women and children.

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ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 469 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 09.12.2022 REGARDING SEXUAL ASSAULTS AGAINST WOMEN

Number of Crime against Women (IPC+SLL) as per data reported by National Crime Records Bureau

Sl. No.	State/UT	2019	2020	2021
	STATES:			
1	Andhra Pradesh	17746	17089	17752
2	Arunachal Pradesh	317	281	366
3	Assam	30025	26352	29046
4	Bihar	18587	15359	17950
5	Chhattisgarh	7689	7385	7344
6	Goa	329	219	224
7	Gujarat	8799	8028	7348
8	Haryana	14683	13000	16658
9	Himachal Pradesh	1636	1614	1599
10	Jharkhand	8760	7630	8110
11	Karnataka	13828	12680	14468
12	Kerala	11462	10139	13539
13	Madhya Pradesh	27560	25640	30673
14	Maharashtra	37144	31954	39526
15	Manipur	266	247	302
16	Meghalaya	558	568	685
17	Mizoram	170	172	176
18	Nagaland	43	39	54
19	Odisha	23183	25489	31352
20	Punjab	5886	4838	5662
21	Rajasthan	41550	34535	40738
22	Sikkim	125	140	130
23	Tamil Nadu	5934	6630	8501
24	Telangana	18394	17791	20865
25	Tripura	1070	874	807
26	Uttar Pradesh	59853	49385	56083
27	Uttarakhand	2541	2846	3431
28	West Bengal	29859	36439	35884
	TOTAL STATE(S)	**387997**	**357363**	**409273**
UNION TERRITORIES :				
29	A&N Islands	135	143	169
30	Chandigarh	515	301	343
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu[@]	82[+]	61	99
32	Delhi	13395	10093	14277
33	Jammu & Kashmir[@]	3069[*]	3405	3937
34	Ladakh [@]	-	9	18
35	Lakshadweep	38	15	9
36	Puducherry	95	113	153
	TOTAL UT(S)	**17329**	**14140**	**19005**
	TOTAL ALL INDIA	**405326**	**371503**	**428278**

'+' Combined data of erstwhile D&N Haveli UT and Daman & Diu UT

'*' Data of erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir State including Ladakh

'@' Data of newly created Union Territory