

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1607
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2023

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

1607. SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the Minister of Women and Child Development be pleased to state:

- (a) whether domestic violence against women persists in the country despite the existence of Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto along with the number of cases registered under the said Act during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to give effective legal assistance to the women who are victim of domestic violence in their in-laws houses, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of the designated security officers and the shelter homes so built for the security of these victims since the enactment of the Act till date, State/ UT-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has given compensation to the victims of the domestic violence from the Central Victim Compensation Fund since 2019, if so, the details thereof along with the number of victims benefited therefrom; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefore

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes data on crimes, including crime against women, in its publication "Crime in India". The said report is available upto the year 2021. The details of complaints registered under 'the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005' (PWDVA) are available on the website of NCRB <https://ncrb.gov.in>. As per information available with NCRB, the number of cases registered under the Act during the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 are 553, 446 and 507 respectively.

'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 including the cases of domestic violence, rests primarily with the respective State Governments and they are competent to deal with it.

Nevertheless, the Central Government gives highest priority to ensuring safety and security of women and has undertaken various legislative and schematic interventions in this regard. These include legislations such as 'The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018', 'The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2006', 'The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961', etc. The schemes/ projects implemented by the Government include One Stop Centers (OSCs); Universalisation of Women Helplines (WHL), Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) which is a pan-India single number (112)/ mobile app based system for emergencies; capacity building in community through awareness programmes, setting up/ strengthening of Women Help Desks (WHDs) at Police Stations etc.

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. BPR&D has also prepared Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for 'Women Help Desk at Police Stations' to ensure smooth functioning of Women Help Desks. 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.

Recognizing the need for psycho-social counseling to women affected by violence and in distress, the 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 Centers (OSCs) across the country on handling psycho-social and mental health care needs to support to such women.

Further, the Government, through institutions like the National Commission for Women (NCW), National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and their counterparts in States have been spreading awareness through seminars, workshops, audio- visual, print and electronic media etc. to sensitize the people about the safety and security of women and children and also about various provisions of the legislation etc. 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.

(c) & (d): The implementation of the PWDVA comes under purview of the respective State Government/ UT Administration. As per Section-9 of PWDVA, it is duty of the Protection Officer to ensure that the aggrieved woman is provided free legal aid as per the provisions of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. Further, under "Mission Shakti", the umbrella scheme for safety, security and empowerment of women, the

Ministry implements the components of 'One Stop Centre (OSC)' under which integrated services such as Medical Aid, Psycho-social Counselling, Police Facilitation, Legal Aid and Counselling and Temporary Shelter upto 5 days are provided under one roof. If required, the needy women can be accommodated in "Shakti Sadan", another component of Mission Shakti. As on date, 733 OSCs are functional in the country. In addition, 441 Shakti Sadans are functional across the country for assisting the women victims of difficult circumstances. The State/ UT wise number of Shakti Sadan is at Annexure.

(e) & (f): The process of Victim Compensation is set into motion through two methods. Firstly, the trial court is empowered to make recommendation to the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) or State Legal Services Authority (SLSA), as the case may be, to decide quantum of compensation to be awarded under the scheme framed by the State Government. The trial court can also make a recommendation in case it is satisfied that the compensation awarded under section 357 of CrPC is not adequate for rehabilitation. Secondly, in cases where the offender is neither traced nor identified, but the victim is identified, the victim and his dependents may make an application to the DLSA or SLSA for award of compensation. On receiving such an application, the DLSA or SLSA has to conduct an inquiry and to award adequate compensation following the due procedure.

Further, pursuant to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition(C) No. 565/2012 (Nipun Saxena vs Union of India and others), National Legal Services Authority has prepared compensation scheme for women victims/ survivors of sexual assault/ other crimes. The same was circulated to all States/ UTs. Many of the State Governments have revised their existing Victim Compensation Schemes in accordance with the NALSA's scheme. The scheme provides for a Women Victim Compensation Fund which is a segregated fund for disbursement for women victim, out of State Victim Compensation Fund and Central Fund. The Central Fund means the contribution received from Central Victim Compensation Fund (CVCF) Scheme, 2015. Central Government has provided one time grant-in-aid of Rs. 200 Crores under Central Victim Compensation Fund (CVCF) to States / UTs under "Nirbhaya Fund" to supplement their respective Victim Compensation Funds. The method of awarding and disbursing the compensation differs as per the Schemes of different States.

Annexure**State/ UT-wise list of Shakti Sadan**

S. No.	Name of State/UT	Number of Shakti Sadan
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	26
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
4.	Assam	36
5.	Chandigarh	1
6.	Chhattisgarh	4
7.	Delhi	2
8.	Goa	3
9.	Gujarat	6
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
12.	Jharkhand	7
13.	Karnataka	65
14.	Kerala	9
15.	Madhya Pradesh	15
16.	Maharashtra	14
17.	Manipur	45
18.	Meghalaya	2
19.	Mizoram	12
20.	Nagaland	2
21.	Odisha	68
22.	Punjab	2
23.	Rajasthan	9
24.	Sikkim	1
25.	Tamil Nadu	35
26.	Telangana	20
27.	Tripura	3
	Uttarakhand	2
28.	Uttar Pradesh	13
29.	West Bengal	34
	Total	441
