

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2805
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 17th MARCH, 2023
Legislation for Protection of Witness**

2805. SHRI UPENDRA SINGH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to enact a legislation for witness protection as suggested by the Law Commission of India;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has informed that there is no proposal for enacting such legislation. However, in compliance of order dated 05.12.2018 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Criminal) No. 156 of 2016, a scheme namely 'Witness Protection Scheme, 2018' has been prepared by the MHA, in consultation with the National Legal Service Authority, Bureau of Police Research & Development and State Governments which was circulated to all the States and Union Territories (UTs) for strict compliance and the same occupies the field as 'law' by virtue of article 141/142 of the Constitution. The scheme provides for protection of witnesses based on the threat assessment.
