

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4415
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2023**

WELFARE OF SENIOR CITIZENS

4415. SHRI B.B. PATIL:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to find out the number of senior citizens in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether many senior citizens in the country have to lead a very insecure life, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to issue Senior Citizen Scheme Card to the elders so that they can live secure and dignified life; and
- (d) if so, the details of the steps taken for implementation of such scheme?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SUSHRI PRATIMA BHOUMIK)**

- (a): Ministry of Home Affairs through Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India, conducts decadal census of the population of the country. Population of senior citizens in the country is ascertained from the Census Report.
- (b): In India, most senior citizens stay with one or more of their children, due to which elderly members feel secure within the family. Also, the National Policy on Older Persons-1999 considers family as the most vital non-formal social security for the elderly and lays down guidelines to ensure that this familial support system continues to be functional and strengthened through support services. As per Ministry of Home Affairs' National Crime Records Bureau, during the year 2019, 2020 and 2021, number of cases registered under crime against senior citizens has been 27804, 24794 and 26110 respectively (Latest published data pertains to the year 2021).
- (c) & (d): As per the guidelines laid down in the National Policy on Older Persons-1999, various Schemes and Programmes have been formulated, which are being implemented by various Ministries and Departments of the Government to enable senior citizens to lead a secure and dignified life. Since, many of these Schemes/Programmes are implemented through the State Governments, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is not considering to issue one common Card for Senior Citizen to avail benefits under such Schemes/Programmes.
