GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1578 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2023

VIOLENCE AGAINST JOURNALISTS

1578. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the incidents of brutal attacks and violence against journalists and media workers have been increasing in the country during the last five years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the total number of such cases reported, journalists killed and total number of culprits punished during the said period; and
- (c) the details of welfare measures extended by the Government for the welfare of journalists and media workers including compensation given to the families of media workers killed while on duty?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) & (b) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India and State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection and investigation of crimes and for prosecuting the criminals through their law enforcement agencies. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) does not maintain data separately for Journalists/ media personnel.

Central Government attaches highest importance to the safety and security of all citizens of the country including journalists. The Ministry of Home Affairs have issued advisories to States and UTs, from time to time, to maintain law and order and ensure that any person who takes law into his/her own hand is punished as per law.

(c) This Ministry also implements Journalist Welfare Scheme to provide financial assistance to journalists or their families under extreme hardship on account of death, permanent disability, treatment for major ailments and accidents causing serious injuries necessitating hospitalization.
