

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.\*57**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2024/ MAGHA 17, 1945 (SAKA)**

**CRIME AGAINST SCs AND STs**

**\*57. SHRI RAVIKUMAR D.:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether there is an alarming increase in crimes against Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) as reported by 'Crime in India' report 2022 of National Crime Records Bureau, if so, the details thereof;**

**(b) whether the Ministry has taken any specific steps and initiatives to address and control such atrocities against SC and ST communities and if so, the details thereof;**

**(c) whether there is any specific reference to the reported cases of rape and assault on tribal women and if so, the details thereof;**

**(d) the concrete steps taken by the Ministry to ensure the safety and well-being of tribal women and other steps being taken to enhance the accountability of those responsible for such crimes; and**

**(e) whether there is any collaborative efforts and engagement strategies adopted by the Ministry to work with the States, especially in regions like South India where there has been a notable increase in crimes against SCs and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)**

**(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*57 FOR 06.02.2024.**

**(a): National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles statistical data on crimes as reported to it by the States/UTs and publishes the same in its publication "Crime in India". The latest published report pertains to the year 2022. The State/UT-wise details of number of cases registered during 2020 to 2022 under Atrocities/Crime against Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) are at Annexure-I.**

**Increased awareness amongst the masses about their rights & laws enacted by the Government to protect their basic human rights and dignity, increased accessibility to police and accountability, training and sensitization of police officials, addition of new offences under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act (PoA), 1989 vide the amendment of 2015, have led to better reporting of crimes against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.**

**(b) & (e): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility of maintaining law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including SCs & STs rest with the respective State Governments. The State Governments**

are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. However, the Government is committed to ensure protection of members of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes. Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) conducts training, courses and webinars from time to time for police personnel sensitizing them for effective implementation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (POA) Act, 1989.

In addition, Government of India has issued advisories to States/UTs from time to time to implement the provisions of the POA Act and Rules in letter and spirit, which are available at [www.mha.gov.in](http://www.mha.gov.in).

To make the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 more effective and to provide greater justice and enhanced redressal to injustice suffered by the atrocity victims, this Act has been amended in 2015. The amendment includes new offences, expanded scope of presumptions, institutional strengthening, which inter-alia includes establishment of Exclusive Special Courts and specification of Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors to exclusively try offences under the POA Act to enable expeditious disposal of cases, power of Special Courts and Exclusive Special Courts to take direct cognizance of offences.

**Further, Section 18 of the POA Act was amended through the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2018 and enforced on 20.08.2018. Conduct of a preliminary enquiry before registration of an FIR or to seek approval of any authority prior to arrest of an accused is no longer required.**

**The Ministry of Home Affairs has advised the States and UTs to identify the atrocity-prone areas for taking preventive measures to save life and property of the members of the SC/ST communities and post adequate number of police personnel, fully equipped with policing infrastructure in the Police Stations in such vulnerable areas.**

**Further, the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment runs a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the implementation of Protection of Civil Rights (PCR) Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes (SC) and the Scheduled Tribes (ST) (Prevention of Atrocities) {POA} Act 1989, under which Central Assistance is provided to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for effective implementation of the PCR Act, 1955 and the SC/ST (POA) Act, 1989.**

**(c): As per data from NCRB, the number of cases registered during years 2020-2022 under crime/atrocities against STs under Crime-heads Rape and Assault on Women with intent to outrage her modesty are at Annexure-II.**

**(d): Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been addressing the State Governments /UTs to implement the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 amended in 2015 (01of 2016) in letter and spirit vide letter dated 18.02.2016 and 01.02.2018. In this regard, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) has also been requested to look into the matter in detail during its visits to various States/UTs, and make recommendations that would enable the prevention of such crises as well as facilitate speedy justice for the victims. Further, Ministry of Home Affairs has taken a number of initiatives for safety of women across the country, which are given below:**

**i. The Criminal Law (Amendment), Act 2013 was enacted for effective deterrence against sexual offences. Further, the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 was enacted to prescribe even more stringent penal provisions including death penalty for rape of girls below the age of 12 years. The Act also inter-alia mandates completion of investigation and filing of chargesheet in rape cases in 2 months and trials to be completed in 2 months.**

**ii. Emergency Response Support System provides a pan-India, single internationally recognized number (112) based system for all emergencies, with computer aided dispatch of field resources to the location of distress.**

**iii. Using technology to aid smart policing and safety management, Safe City Projects have been sanctioned in first Phase in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai).**

**iv. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has provided financial assistance under the 'Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC) Scheme, to the States/UTs for their capacity building such as setting up of cyber forensic-cum-training laboratories, hiring of junior cyber consultants and training of Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) personnel, public prosecutors and judicial officers.**

**v. MHA has launched the "National Database on Sexual Offenders" (NDSO) on 20th September 2018 to facilitate investigation and tracking of sexual offenders across the country by law enforcement agencies.**

**vi. MHA has launched an online analytic tool "Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences" for Police on 19th February 2019 to facilitate them to monitor and track time-bound investigation in sexual assault cases in accordance with Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2018.**

**vii. In order to improve investigation, MHA has taken steps to strengthen DNA analysis units in Central and State Forensic Science Laboratories. This includes setting up of State-of-the-Art DNA Analysis Unit in Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Chandigarh. MHA has also sanctioned setting-up and upgrading of DNA Analysis units in State Forensic Science Laboratories after gap analysis and demand assessment.**

**viii. MHA has notified guidelines for collection of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases and the standard composition in a sexual assault evidence collection kit. To facilitate adequate capacity in manpower, training and skill building programs have been undertaken for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers. Bureau of Police Research & Development has distributed 18,020 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits to States/ UTs as orientation kit as part of training.**

**ix. MHA has also approved two projects for setting up and strengthening of Women Help Desks in Police Stations and Anti-Human Trafficking Units in all districts of the country.**

**x. In addition to the above-mentioned measures, the Ministry of Home Affairs has issued advisories from time to time with a view to help the States/UTs to deal with crimes against women and children, which are available at [www.mha.gov.in](http://www.mha.gov.in)**

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**State/UT-wise Cases Registered under Crime against SCs & STs during 2020 to 2022**

S. No.	State/UT	SCs			STs		
		2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
1	Andhra Pradesh	1950	2014	2315	320	361	396
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	1	0
3	Assam	28	15	14	10	16	9
4	Bihar	7368	5842	6509	94	103	146
5	Chhattisgarh	316	330	323	502	506	516
6	Goa	2	4	8	2	5	1
7	Gujarat	1326	1201	1279	291	341	330
8	Haryana	1210	1628	1633	0	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	251	244	210	3	7	4
10	Jharkhand	666	546	674	347	250	283
11	Karnataka	1398	1673	1977	293	361	438
12	Kerala	846	948	1050	130	133	172
13	Madhya Pradesh	6899	7214	7733	2401	2627	2979
14	Maharashtra	2569	2503	2743	663	628	742
15	Manipur	0	0	0	2	0	1
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	5	0	0	29
18	Nagaland#	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	2046	2327	2902	624	676	773
20	Punjab	165	200	162	4	0	0
21	Rajasthan	7017	7524	8752	1878	2121	2521
22	Sikkim	0	2	3	0	1	4
23	Tamil Nadu	1274	1377	1761	23	39	67
24	Telangana	1959	1772	1787	573	512	545
25	Tripura	2	3	2	2	0	3
26	Uttar Pradesh	12714	13146	15368	3	4	5
27	Uttarakhand	87	123	114	13	6	1
28	West Bengal	109	108	104	90	92	90
	<b>TOTAL STATE(S)</b>	<b>50202</b>	<b>50744</b>	<b>57428</b>	<b>8268</b>	<b>8790</b>	<b>10055</b>
29	A&N Islands	0	0	0	2	3	3
30	Chandigarh	3	0	4	0	0	0
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	1	0	0	0	3	5
32	Delhi	69	136	130	1	5	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir	7	13	11	0	1	1
34	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	1	0	0
36	Puducherry	9	7	9	0	0	0
	<b>TOTAL UT(S)</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b>TOTAL (ALL INDIA)</b>	<b>50291</b>	<b>50900</b>	<b>57582</b>	<b>8272</b>	<b>8802</b>	<b>10064</b>

Source: Crime in India

# Clarifications are pending from Nagaland for the year 2022



**Number of Cases registered during years 2020-2022 under crime/atrocities against STs under Crime heads Rape and Assault on Women with intent to outrage her modesty**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Rape</b>	<b>Assault on Women with intent to outrage her modesty</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>1137</b>	<b>885</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>1324</b>	<b>881</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>1347</b>	<b>1022</b>

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