

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2453**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER, 2019/ AGRAHAYANA 12, 1941 (SAKA)  
CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN**

**2453. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any data regarding crimes against children in the country and if so, the details thereof during the last five years;**
- (b) the measures taken by the Government to prevent the crimes against children along with the achievements after implementation of the said measures;**
- (c) whether the Government has any data regarding sexual abuses of children and if so, the details thereof during the said period;**
- (d) whether the Government has the details regarding the places where these crimes had taken place like schools, peer groups, home, public places etc. and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether the POCSO Act is adequate to prevent such cases, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reaction of the Government thereto?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

**(a): National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes information on crimes in its publication “Crime in India”. The Published reports are available till the year 2017.**

**The details regarding number of cases registered under “Total Crimes against Children” during 2013-2017 are given below:**

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Number of Cases Registered</b> |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>2013</b> | <b>58224</b>                      |
| <b>2014</b> | <b>89423</b>                      |
| <b>2015</b> | <b>94172</b>                      |
| <b>2016</b> | <b>106958</b>                     |
| <b>2017</b> | <b>129032</b>                     |

**(b): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibilities to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including children in distress rest with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws.**

**However, Government accords utmost priority to the safety of children. The Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Women and Child Development have issued various advisories from time to time on steps to be taken for effective prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of all crimes against Children, measures needed to prevent trafficking and to trace children, filing of FIR in case of missing children, kidnapping of minors, tackling of cyber-crime relating to obscene content against women and children.**

**Government has also taken a number of initiatives for prevention of cases of crime against children, which are given below:**

- i. The Criminal Law (Amendments), 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 a girl below the age of 12 years. The Act also inter-alia mandates completion of investigation and trials within 2 months each.**
- ii. The Government of India has amended the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 through Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act, 2019 effective from 16.08.2019 in order to**

**make it more effective in dealing with cases of child sexual abuse in the country.**

- iii. 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.**
- iv. 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).**
- v. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has launched a cyber-crime portal on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018 for citizens to report obscene content.**
- vi. MHA has launched the “National Database on Sexual Offenders” (NDSO) on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018 to facilitate investigation and tracking of sexual offenders across the country by law enforcement agencies.**
- vii. In order to facilitate States/UTs, MHA has launched an online analytic tool for police on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019 called “Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences” to monitor and track time-bound investigation in sexual assault cases in accordance with the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2018.**
- viii. 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 a 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 in 13 States/ UTs.**

**(c): Data of the total number of cases registered under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 is available from the year 2014 onwards and the details in this regard during the period 2014 to 2017 are as below:**

| <b>Years</b> | <b>Number of Cases Registered Under POCSO Act 2012</b> |
|--------------|--|
| <b>2014</b>  | <b>34449</b>   |
| <b>2015</b>  | <b>34505</b>   |
| <b>2016</b>  | <b>36022</b>   |
| <b>2017</b>  | <b>32608</b>   |

**(d): No such data is maintained by NCRB.**

**(e): The Government has enacted the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO), 2012 as a special law to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation. Further, the POCSO Act has been amended with effect from 16.08.2019 in order to make it more effective in dealing with cases of child sexual abuse in the country. The Act is a comprehensive law to provide for the protection of children from the offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography, while safeguarding the interests of the child at every stage of judicial process by incorporating child friendly mechanisms for reporting, recording of evidence, investigation and speedy trial of offences through designated Special Courts.**

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