

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS)
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3370
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019

BASIC RIGHTS TO TRIBAL WOMEN

3370. MS. RAMYA HARIDAS:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: -

- (a) whether the Government runs any awareness programmes for tribal women to inform them of their basic rights and to empower them to raise voice against exploitation and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has data of crimes committed against tribal women;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, during the last three years; and
- (d) the action undertaken against perpetrators of such crimes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SMT. RENUKA SINGH SARUTA)

(a): Ministry of Tribal Affairs is not implementing any specific awareness programme for tribal women. However, for creating awareness on basic rights among tribal women on various Acts like the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act (FRA), 2006, Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA), 1996 & Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (POA), various steps have been taken which inter-alia includes Translation of Act, Rules and guidelines into local languages through the State Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs), conducting training & awareness camps through TRIs, Regional Consultations / Workshops, training of officials of the State Governments who are responsible for implementing the Act at the ground level etc.

Ministry of Women and Child Development being the nodal Ministry for protecting the right of women is also implementing several schemes catering to awareness and empowerment of women including Tribal women. Details of the major schemes are as under:

- i. **Mahila Shakti Kendrais** aimed at empowering rural women through community participation. The scheme is envisaged to provide an interface for rural women to approach the Government for availing their entitlements and for empowering them through awareness generation, training and capacity building. Community engagement through College Student Volunteers is envisioned in 115 most backward / aspirational districts as part of the Block Level initiatives. Student volunteers are to play an instrumental role in awareness generation regarding various important government schemes/ programmes as well as social issues.
- ii. **SwadharGreh Scheme** for relief and rehabilitation of women in difficult circumstances.
- iii. **Ujjawala Scheme** is being implemented for Prevention of trafficking and for Rescue, Rehabilitation, Re-integration and Repatriation of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation.

- iv. **Working Women Hostels** for ensuring safe accommodation for working women away from their place of residence.
- v. **BetiBachaoBetiPadhao (BBBP)** Scheme is being implemented in all 640 district (as per census 2011) to improve Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and address related issues of empowerment of women on a lifecycle continuum.
- vi. **One Stop Centres** scheme for facilitating access to an integrated range of services including police, medical, legal, psychological support and temporary shelter to women affected by violence.
- vii. **Scheme for Universalization of Women Helpline** is intended to provide 24 hours emergency and non-emergency response to women affected by violence.
- viii. **Mahila Police Volunteers** is to create public-police interface to facilitate outreach on issues related to violence against women and children

Besides, Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) of the Government of India have undertaken a number of measures for enhancing safety of women in the country. The Government of India has set up a non-lapsable corpus Nirbhaya Fund for enhancing safety and security of women. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is also implementing Schemes including the Scheme of 'One Stop Centre' for violence affected women, the Scheme of 'Universalisation of Women Helpline' and the Scheme of 'Mahila Police Volunteers' under Nirbhaya Fund Framework. The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been administering various special laws relating to women such as 'The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005', 'The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961', 'The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986', 'The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013', and 'The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006'. The Ministry is also administering 'The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015', 'The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005' and 'The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012'. The Criminal Law (Amendment), Act 2013 was enacted for effective legal deterrence against sexual offences. Further, 'The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018' has also been enacted making the punishment for offences like rape more stringent by 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.

Initiatives taken by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India for safety of women as on 19.07.2019 are as under:

- a) An online analytic tool for police has been launched on 19th February 2019 called "Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences" to monitor and track time-bound investigation in sexual assault cases in accordance with Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2018.
- b) "National Database on Sexual Offenders" (NDSO) has been launched by MHA on 20th September 2018 to facilitate investigation and tracking of sexual offenders across the country by law enforcement agencies.
- c) Emergency Response Support System (ERSS), which provides a single emergency number (112) based computer aided dispatch of field resources to the location of distress has been operationalized in 20 States/ UTs in 2018-19.

- d) A cyber-crime portal has been launched on 20th September 2018 for citizens to report obscene content. Further, Cyber Crime Forensic Labs have been set up in several States, and training of over 3,664 personnel, including 410 Public Prosecutors and Judicial Officers in identifying, detecting and resolving cyber-crimes against women and children has been imparted.
- e) Using technology to aid smart policing and safety management, Safe City Projects have been sanctioned in phase-I in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai) under Nirbhaya Fund.
- f) In order to improve investigation, steps have been taken 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. Setting-up and upgrading of DNA Analysis units in State Forensic Science Laboratories in 13 States/ UTs has also been sanctioned under Nirbhaya Fund.
- g) Guidelines have been notified 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 for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers have commenced. 3,221 Officers have already been trained by Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) and Lok Narayan Jayaprakash Narayan National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science in collection, handling and transportation of forensic evidence. BPR&D has distributed 3,120 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits to States/ UTs as orientation kit as part of training.

(b) to (d): National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) set up under the aegis of Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India publishes a comprehensive report titled “Crime in India” since 1953, which provides comprehensive statistics on crimes including crimes committed against tribal women. Copies of year wise reports are available at <http://ncrb.gov.in/index.htm>. As reflected in NCRB Reports, 2015, 2016 and 2017, the details of disposal of persons arrested for crime/atrocities against Scheduled Tribe(s)including tribal women are at **Annexure**.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3370 for answer on 09.12.2019

Disposal of Persons Arrested for Crime/Atrocities against Scheduled Tribe(s) - 2017				
S. No	Type of Action	Male	Female	Total
1	Persons Arrested	10266	395	10661
2	Persons Charge sheeted	9685	350	10035
3	Persons Convicted	1001	14	1015
4	Persons Acquitted	418	4	422
5	Persons Discharged	2922	65	2987

Disposal of Persons Arrested for Crime/Atrocities against Scheduled Tribe(s) - 2016				
S. No	Type of Action	Male	Female	Total
1	Persons Arrested	9436	310	9746
2	Persons Charge sheeted	9002	262	9264
3	Persons Convicted	907	6	913
4	Persons Acquitted	4062	75	4137
5	Persons Discharged	24	0	24

Disposal of Persons Arrested for Crime/Atrocities against Scheduled Tribe(s) - 2015				
S. No	Type of Action	Male	Female	Total
1	Persons Arrested	13841	594	14435
2	Persons Charge sheeted	13456	591	14047
3	Persons Convicted	2178	87	2265
4	Persons Acquitted	5837	190	6027
5	Persons Discharged	87	0	87