GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.2597 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.03.2020

WOMEN FARMERS

2597. SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the problems being faced by the women farmers due to the Government's proposal to shift the Secretariat from Amaravati to Visakhapatnam and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that women farmers have been protesting against the shifting of capital for the last three months and a few of them have committed suicide and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government/National Commission of Women (NCW) has taken suo motu cognizance of the issue and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Government has taken action against police officials responsible for manhandling women protesters and if so, the details thereof along with status of the cases registered against such officials?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (d): Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments undertake development of perspective plans and ensure effective implementation of the programmes/ schemes. The subject relating to land and its management falls within the jurisdiction of States as per Entry 18 and Entry 35 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The role of the Central Government in the field of land reforms is only of an advisory nature. Further, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens is with the State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws.

The National Commission for Women (NCW) had taken cognizance of the media reports of agitating women farmers. The Commission had taken up the matter with the State Police.
