GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1548

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20^{TH} SEPTEMBER, 2020/ BHADRAPADA 29, 1942 (SAKA)

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY NHRC

1548. SHRI PINAKI MISRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) regarding alleged harassment of human rights defenders during the last three years and the current year so far, State/UT-wise;

(b) the number of such cases where the NHRC recommended compensation or release of human rights defenders during the said period, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that some human rights defenders were targeted by the NSO Group's Pegasus spyware in 2019 and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to ensure protection of human rights defenders?

ANSWER

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

(a): As per information available with National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), State/UT wise data in respect of the number of complaints received by NHRC regarding alleged harassment of human rights(HR) defenders during the last three years and the current year till 31.08.2020 is at Annexure 'A'. (b): As reported, NHRC made recommendation for monetary relief of Rs. 13.25 lakh in five cases (one each from Bihar, Karnataka, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh and Tamilnadu) during last three years and the current year till 31.08.2020. However, release of HR defenders is a matter within the jurisdiction of respective Hon'ble Court.

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(c): No such information is available with this Ministry.

(d): NHRC has a dedicated focal point for receiving and examining complaints about alleged violation of Human Rights of HR defenders. The complaints are processed on priority and taken up with the authorities concerned in the State Government for ensuring protection to the HR defenders as well as redressal of their grievances.

Statement in respect of part (a) of LokSabhaUnstarred Question No. 1548 for 20.09.2020 showing state- wise total no. of complaints received by NHRC regarding alleged harassment of human rights defenders during the last three years and the current year till 31.08.2020.

Sr.No.	State/UT Name	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
		No. of Complaints registered	No. of Complaints registered	No. of Complaints registered	No. of Complaints registered upto 31.08.2020
	ANDHRA		0	1	3
1	PRADESH	3	3	3	3
2	ASSAM	10	3	3	0
3	BIHAR	1	0	0	
4	CHANDIGARH	1			0
5	CHHATTISGARH	1	4	1	0
6	DELHI	0	4	6	2
7	FOREIGN COUNTRIES	1	0	0	0
8	GUJARAT	3	2	4	4
9	HARYANA	2	1	1	0
10	HIMACHAL	1	1	0	1
11	JAMMU & KASHMIR	0	0	2	2
12	JHARKHAND	3	4	4	0
13	KARNATAKA	7	3	6	1
14	KERALA	0	2	1	1
15	MADHYA PRADESH	3	2	3	2
16	MAHARASHTRA	2	4	6	1
17	MANIPUR	3	7	2	3
18	MEGHALAYA	1	2	0	0
19	MIZORAM	0	1	0	0
20	ODISHA	7	10	5	4
21	PUNJAB	1	2	1	0
22	RAJASTHAN	2	2	7	3
23	TAMIL NADU	15	6	11	1
24	TELANGANA	1	2	4	1
25	TRIPURA	0	1	0	0
26	UTTAR PRADESH	3	15	26	8
27	UTTARAKHAND	0	0	1	0
28	WEST BENGAL	2	8	7	1
29	TOTAL	73	89	105	39