

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.936
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.09.2020

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

936: DR. AMAR SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the high incidence of rape and physical violence against women between the age group of 15-49 years;
- (b) whether gender based violence is one of the most common human right violations and is mostly unreported and unrecognised due to the social stigma surrounding it, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the preventive measures taken/being taken to mobilise support and spread awareness against gender based violence?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) : The Government gives high priority to ensuring safety and security of women and has undertaken various legislative and schematic interventions in this regard. These include legislations such as 'The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018', 'The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013', 'The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 'The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013', 'The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2006', 'The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961', etc. and schemes such as One Stop Centres(OSCs), Universalisation of Women Helpline (WHL), Mahila Police Volunteers (MPV) etc.

In addition, several initiatives under Nirbhaya Fund have been taken to ensure safety and security of women. These *inter alia* include implementation of the Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) which is a pan-India single number (112)/ mobile app based system for emergencies, a cyber-crime reporting portal to report obscene content, safe city projects in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai) including infrastructure, technology adoption and capacity building in community through awareness programmes, training and skill development programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers, distribution of Sexual Assault Evidence Collection (SAEC) Kits to States/ UTs, assistance to 16 States/ UTs to strengthen Forensic Science Laboratories etc.
