

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.1693
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2022

CHILD MARRIAGE

1693 : DR. DHAL SINGH BISEN:

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

- (a) the details of child marriages reported in the country during the last five years, State/ UT-wise particularly in Madhya Pradesh, district-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any action in such cases and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the initiative taken by the Government to create awareness and prevent such child marriages in Madhya Pradesh?

ANSWER

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

(a) : The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes the data on the number of cases of child marriage registered under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA), 2006 in its publication 'Crime in India'. The said report is available upto the year 2020. The state-wise and year-wise number of cases of child marriages reported in the country during last five years is at **Annexure-I** and the district-wise number of cases of child marriages in Madhya Pradesh is at **Annexure-II**.

(b) & (c): '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, investigation and prosecution of crime against women and children including prohibition of child marriages, rest with the respective State Governments. the State Governments are competent to deal with such offenses under the extant provisions of laws.

The Government has enacted the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA), 2006. Section 16 of the PCMA authorises the State Government to appoint for the whole State, or such part thereof as may be specified, an officer or officers to be known as the 'Child Marriage Prohibition Officers (CMPO)' having jurisdiction over the area or areas specified in the notification. This section also specifies the functions to be discharged by CMPOs, which also include preventing solemnisation of child marriages by taking such action as they may deem fit; to collect evidence for the effective prosecution of persons contravening the provisions of the Act; to advise the individuals or counsel the residents of the locality not to indulge in promoting, helping, aiding or allowing the solemnisation of child marriages; to create awareness about the ill effects

of child marriages; and to sensitize the community on the issue of child marriages. These authorities function under the respective State Governments/ UT Administrations. As such, implementation of the provisions of the Act lies with them.

The Central Government also undertakes awareness drives, media campaigns and outreach programs and issues advisories to the States/ UTs from time to time to highlight evil effects of this practice. Further, the Ministry of Women and Child Development implements the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme, wherein creation of awareness on matters pertaining to gender equality and discouraging child marriage is an important focus area. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) also undertakes awareness programs and consultations with stakeholders from time to time in this regard. In addition, Government of India has introduced CHILDLINE with short code 1098, a 24X7 telephone emergency outreach service for children in crisis which responds with suitable interventions to call for any form of assistance which a child requires, including for prevention of child marriages in coordination with police, CMPOs, District Child Protection Units etc.

As per information provided by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, in the State of Madhya Pradesh, from the year 2013-2019, Lado Abhiyan was undertaken with the objective of raising awareness among various matrimonial service providers such as religious leaders, marriage gardens, dharamshalas, caterers, beauty parlors and saloons, printing press, social leaders etc for not providing services in case of child marriages and to report such incidents. Under the 'Strategic Action Plan for Adolescent Empowerment with Focus on Ending Child Marriage and Violence Against Children, 2020-2024', collaborative efforts are made by different stakeholders including Departments of Elementary Education, Higher Education, Rural Development, Tribal Development, Technical Education, Skill Development, Sports & Youth Affairs and Public Relations. Conscious and concerted efforts are made to prohibit child marriages by utilising the available resources. Further, 'Bal Vivaah Rok Tham Dal' have been established at Village, Block and District levels. Control Rooms are in place at Block and District Level to ensure quick action if a planned child marriage is reported. On 22.06.2021, an online webinar was organised by the Women and Child Development Department at State level to spread awareness on this issue.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO THE LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 1693 FOR ANSWER ON 11.02.2022 ASKED BY DR. DHAL SINGH BISEN REGARDING “CHILD MARRIAGE”

STATE-WISE AND YEAR-WISE NUMBER OF CASES OF CHILD MARRIAGE REPORTED DURING LAST FIVE YEARS

Sl. No.	State/UT	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1	Andhra Pradesh	19	15	14	4	32
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	23	58	88	115	138
4	Bihar	0	17	35	8	5
5	Chhattisgarh	8	1	2	0	1
6	Goa	0	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	12	6	8	20	15
8	Haryana	14	18	21	20	33
9	Himachal Pradesh	0	5	9	4	5
10	Jharkhand	4	1	7	3	3
11	Karnataka	51	65	73	111	184
12	Kerala	8	15	18	7	8
13	Madhya Pradesh	9	5	3	4	5
14	Maharashtra	16	20	13	20	50
15	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	15	17	22	22	24
20	Punjab	8	8	6	6	13
21	Rajasthan	12	6	11	19	3
22	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	55	55	67	46	77
24	Telangana	19	25	24	35	60
25	Tripura	1	1	1	0	4
26	Uttar Pradesh	3	4	4	4	12
27	Uttarakhand	1	1	2	2	9
28	West Bengal	41	49	70	68	98
	TOTAL STATE(s)	319	392	498	518	779
29	A&N Islands	1	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	2	2	1	1
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu+	0	0	0	1	0
32	Delhi	1	1	1	2	4
33	Jammu & Kashmir*	0	0	0	1	1
34	Ladakh	-	-	-	-	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	5	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL UT(s)	7	3	3	5	6
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	326	395	501	523	785

Annexure-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO THE LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 1693 FOR ANSWER ON 11.02.2022 ASKED BY DR. DHAL SINGH BISEN REGARDING 'CHILD MARRIAGE'

Cases Registered under 'The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006' districts of Madhya Pradesh during 2016-2020

Sl. No.	District	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1	Agar	0	0	0	0	0
2	Alirajpur	0	0	0	0	0
3	Anuppur	0	0	0	0	0
4	Ashok Nagar	0	0	0	0	0
5	Balaghat	0	0	0	0	0
6	Barwani	0	0	0	0	0
7	Betul	0	0	0	0	0
8	Bhind	0	0	0	0	0
9	Bhopal	0	0	1	0	1
10	Bhopal Railway	0	0	0	0	0
11	Burhanpur	0	0	0	0	0
12	Chhatarpur	0	0	0	0	0
13	Chhindwara	0	0	0	0	0
14	Damoh	0	0	1	0	0
15	Datia	0	0	0	0	0
16	Dewas	1	1	0	0	0
17	Dhar	0	1	0	0	0
18	Dindori	0	0	0	0	0
19	Guna	0	0	0	1	0
20	Gwalior	2	1	0	0	0
21	Harda	0	0	0	0	0
22	Hoshangabad	0	0	0	0	0
23	Indore	0	0	0	0	0
24	Indore Railway	0	0	0	0	0
25	Jabalpur	0	0	0	0	0
26	Jabalpur Railway	0	0	0	0	0
27	Jhabua	0	0	0	0	0
28	Katni	0	0	0	0	0
29	Khandwa	0	0	0	0	0
30	Khargone	1	0	0	1	0
31	Mandla	0	0	0	0	0
32	Mandsaur	0	0	0	0	0
33	Morena	0	0	0	0	0
34	Narsinghpur	0	2	0	0	0
35	Neemuch	0	0	0	0	0
36	Panna	0	0	0	0	0
37	Raisen	0	0	0	0	0
38	Rajgarh	1	0	0	0	0
39	Ratlam	0	0	0	0	0
40	Rewa	0	0	0	0	0
41	Sagar	0	0	0	0	0
42	Satna	0	0	0	0	0

43	Seoni	1	0	0	0	0
44	Shahdol	1	0	0	0	0
45	Shajapur	0	0	0	0	1
46	Sheopur	0	0	0	0	0
47	Shivpuri	1	0	1	2	3
48	Sidhi	0	0	0	0	0
49	Sehore	0	0	0	0	0
50	Singrauli	0	0	0	0	0
51	Tikamgarh	1	0	0	0	0
52	Ujjain	0	0	0	0	0
53	Umaria	0	0	0	0	0
54	Vidisha	0	0	0	0	0
55	Cyber Crime Cell	0	0	0	0	0
56	Niwari	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	9	5	3	4	5
