GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 5047 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.04.2022

CHILD MARRIAGE

5047. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA:

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

- (a) the details of child marriages recorded/ reported in India in the last three years, Statewise:
- (b) whether the Government has kept any record of female deaths due to early pregnancies and child birth attributed to child marriages and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has comparative data on the rate of child marriages in India before and during the pandemic and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is working on any legislation that bridges the gap between the Prevention of Child Marriages Act (PCMA), 2006 and the personal laws while also making it mandatory to register all child marriages across the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): 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, which shows that the number of cases of child marriage registered under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA), 2006 for the year 2018, 2019 and 2020 are 501, 523 and 785 respectively. The state-wise and year-wise details of cases of child marriages reported in the country during last three years is at **Annexure-I**.

According to "A Statistical Analysis of Child Marriage in India based on Census 2011", prepared by Young Lives and the National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), girls aged 15 to 19 years are twice more likely than older women to die from childbirth and pregnancy.

(d) & (e): The Government has introduced a Bill namely 'the Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2021 in the Parliament on 21.12.2021 for raising the age of marriage of women to 21 years to make it at par with the men and also to make consequential amendments in the enactments, *inter alia*, relating to age of marriage of parties, such as the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act, 1936, the Muslim Personal Law (*Shariat*) Application Act, 1937, the Special Marriage Act, 1954, the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, and the Foreign Marriage Act, 1969.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5047 FOR ANSWER ON 01.04.2022 ASKED BY SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA "CHILD MARRIAGE"

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

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