

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *232**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2ND AUGUST, 2022/ SRAVANA 11, 1944 (SAKA)

ACID ATTACKS

***232. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is continued easy access to acid despite the existing regulations on its sale and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has taken any concrete steps to discourage sale of acids used for acid attacks against women;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (d) the details of the penal action taken by the Government against persons committing acid attacks including the number of complaints filed and actual convictions during the last three years?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)**

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *232 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 2ND AUGUST, 2022 REGARDING “ACID ATTACKS”

(a) to (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 including investigation and prosecution of crime against citizens rest with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. In terms of the Poisons Act, 1919, States/ Union Territories regulate the possession and sale of acids and corrosive chemicals, including wholesale and retail sales, through their respective Poison Rules. Data is not maintained centrally on sale of acids and corrosive chemicals.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has circulated the Model Poisons Rules to all States/Union Territories for notifying the same to regulate the sale of acid in respective State/Union Territories. Further, MHA has issued Advisories to all States/ Union Territories to review and ensure that retail sale of acids and chemicals are strictly regulated in terms of the Poison Rules so that these are not used in crime. The latest advisory has been issued on 12 August 2021. The advisories are available on www.mha.gov.in.

(d): As per data published by the National Crime Records Bureau, a total of 131, 150 and 105 cases were registered in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively for acid attack on women. A total of 28, 16 and 18 persons were convicted in the year 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively.