

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1299**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 30TH JULY, 2024/ SHRAVAN 8, 1946 (SAKA)

ATROCITIES AGAINST SCs/STs

1299 ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of registered cases of atrocities against SCs/STs in the State of Uttar Pradesh, since 2021, Year-wise; and**
- (b) the action taken by the Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR)**

(a): National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles statistical data on crimes as reported to it by the States/UTs and publishes the same in its publication "Crime in India". The latest published report pertains to the year 2022. The details of number of cases registered (CR) under crime against Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) during years 2021-2022 in the State of Uttar Pradesh are given below:-

State	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
Uttar Pradesh	13146	15368	4	5

(b): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility of maintaining law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including Scheduled Castes (SCs) & Scheduled Tribes (STs) rest with the respective State Governments and the State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. However, the Government of India is committed to ensure protection of members of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes throughout the country and supports the measures of the State Governments to tackle crime against SCs and STs. The steps taken by the Government of India in this regard are as follows :-

Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) conducts training, courses and webinars from time to time for police personnel sensitizing them for effective implementation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (POA) Act, 1989.

To make the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (POA Act) more effective and to provide greater justice and enhanced redressal to injustice suffered by the atrocity victims, this Act has been amended in 2015. The amendment includes new offences, expanded scope of presumptions, institutional strengthening, which

inter-alia includes establishment of Exclusive Special Courts and specification of Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors to exclusively try offences under the POA Act to enable expeditious disposal of cases, power of Special Courts and Exclusive Special Courts to take direct cognizance of offences. Further, Section 18 of the POA Act was amended through the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2018 and enforced with effect from 20.08.2018. Conduct of a preliminary enquiry before registration of an FIR or to seek approval of any authority prior to arrest of an accused is no longer required.

In addition, Ministry of Home Affairs has been advising the State Governments/ UT Administrations from time to time to give focused attention to effective administration of the criminal justice system with emphasis on prevention and control of crimes against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and to implement the provisions of the POA Act and Rules in letter and spirit. These advisories are available at the website www.mha.gov.in.

Further, the Ministry of Home Affairs has advised the States and UTs to identify the atrocity-prone areas for taking preventive measures to save life and property of the members of the SC and ST communities and post

adequate number of police personnel, fully equipped with policing infrastructure in the Police Stations in such vulnerable areas.

Further, the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment runs a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the effective implementation of Protection of Civil Rights (PCR) Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes (SC) and the Scheduled Tribes (ST) (Prevention of Atrocities) {POA} Act 1989, under which Central Assistance is provided to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for effective implementation of these Acts, which includes :

- (i) Functioning and strengthening of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection cell and Special Police Stations.**
- (ii) Setting up and functioning of exclusive Special Courts.**
- (iii) Relief and Rehabilitation of atrocity victims.**
- (iv) Incentive for Inter-Caste Marriages, where one of the spouses is a member of a Scheduled Caste.**
- (v) Awareness generation.**
