

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 457
ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024

VANDALISATION OF CHURCHES

457. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government is aware of repeated instances of churches being vandalized in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and continuing assaults on Christian missionaries and priests in various North Indian States by the right-wing affiliated organizations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has sought reports from the said State Governments in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) to (d): As per the information received from Ministry of Home Affairs, 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility of maintaining law and order, registration and prosecution of crimes against all citizens, rests with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. Specific data regarding attacks against individual communities or their places of worship is not maintained centrally.

Government of India monitors the internal security and law and order situation in the country and assist the State Governments in case of major law and order problems by deploying Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) on the request of State Governments.

Further, the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) has been set up by Government, which looks into specific complaints regarding deprivation of rights and safeguards of the minorities and take up such matters with the appropriate authorities. As per the mandate, the Commission takes appropriate action on reports and complaints received from time to time as per the requirement and refer them to the concerned State Government for necessary action.
