GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3088 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2024

ATROCITIES ON WOMEN AND CHILDREN

3088. PROF. SOUGATA RAY:

Will the Minister of Women and Chid Development be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of a sharp hike in reported cases of atrocities on women and children recently;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases reported during the last three years, State wise;
- (c) whether some States failed to check attacks on women and children;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the National Commission for women monitors the actions in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR)

(a) to (f): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and the responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including investigation and prosecution of crime against women and rests primarily with the respective State Governments and they are competent to deal with such crimes.

As per the latest available information published by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), up to the year 2022 on its website https://ncrb.gov.in/en/crime-india, the cumulative figures of crimes against women and children from 2020 to 2022 were 1245037 and 440384 respectively. State/UTs- wise details of cases registered for crime against women and children during the years 2020, 2021 and 2022 are at **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II** respectively. However, increased reporting of crime against women and children may be attributable to the increased level of awareness among citizens due to various measures taken by the government in the last few years including the operationalization of helplines such as Women Helpline-181 and Emergency Response Support System (ERSS-112), Zero-FIR, e-FIR and institutional support to the survivors.

The Constitution of India guarantees the right to equality and also provides for positive interventions by the State to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and to ensure their holistic empowerment. Keeping in mind the vision articulated in Constitutional provisions, the Central Government gives highest priority to ensuring

safety and security of women and has undertaken various legislative and schematic interventions in this regard. These include legislations such as 'The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013', 'The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005', 'The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961', and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, New Criminal laws, 2023, etc.

The Central Government implements various schemes and projects which include One Stop Centres (OSCs); Universalisation of Women Helplines (WHL), Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) which is a pan-India single number (112) mobile app based system for emergencies; She-Box provides a single window access for women facing sexual harassment at workplace; a cyber-crime reporting portal to report obscene content; Safe City Projects in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai) including infrastructure, technology adoption and capacity building in community through awareness programmes, training and skill development programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers: distribution of Sexual Assault Evidence Collection (SAEC) Kits to States/ UTs; establishment of State of Art DNA Laboratory at CFSL, Chandigarh; assistance to 30 States/ UTs to strengthen Forensic Science Laboratories; Setting up/ strengthening of Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) in all districts of the country; setting up/ strengthening of Women Help Desks (WHDs) at Police Stations, Fast Track Special Courts including exclusive POCSO courts for speedy trial of cases of rape and cases under POSCO Act, etc. The Government has also put in place an Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences, an online analytic tool for tracking and monitoring of investigation. A National Database of Sexual Offenders (NDSO) has also been created.

National Commission for Women (NCW), in addition to handling complaints through regular mode, assists women in distress through a dedicated 24x7 Helpline - 7827170170. NCW also takes suo-moto cognizance of the grievances relating to crime against women reported through social/ print/ electronic media. The complaints received by NCW are acted upon by coordinating with victims, police and other authorities to provide immediate assistance

The Government accords highest priority for ensuring safety and security of children and has undertaken various interventions in this regard. To safeguard children against sexual abuse and sexual harassment, Government has enacted Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. The act defines a child as any person below the age of 18 years.

POCSO Act under section-12 provides punishment for committing sexual harassment which shall be with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine. The Act was further amended in 2019 to introduce more stringent punishment including death penalty for committing sexual crimes on children, with a view to deter the perpetrators & prevent such crimes against children.

Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) from the financial year 2023-2024, has also introduced a centrally funded scheme namely "Scheme for Care and Support to Victims under Section 4 & 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses (POCSO) Act, 2012" from NIRBHAYA Fund to address the challenges faced

by the minor pregnant girl child victims for implementation by the State/UT Governments.

Further, Department of Justice is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up Fast Track Special Courts (FTSC) including exclusive POCSO Courts (e-POCSO) for disposal of pending cases of rape and POCSO Act since October 2019. As per the information received from the High Courts, as on 30.09.2024, 750 FTSCs including 408 exclusive POCSO Courts are functional in 30 States/UTs, which have disposed of more than 287000 cases including more than 180000 cases under POCSO Act.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA ADMITTED UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3088 FOR 13.12.2024 REGARDING "ATROCITIES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN" ASKED BY PROF. SOUGATA RAY.

STATE/UT WISE DETAILS OF CASES REGISTERED FOR CRIME AGAINST WOMEN DURING THE YEARS 2020, 2021 AND 2022 (SOURCE: NCRB)

SL	State/UT	2020	2021	2022
1	Andhra Pradesh	17089	17752	25503
2	Arunachal Pradesh	281	366	335
3	Assam	26352	29046	14148
4	Bihar	15359	17950	20222
5	Chhattisgarh	7385	7344	8693
6	Goa	219	224	273
7	Gujarat	8028	7348	7731
8	Haryana	13000	16658	16743
9	Himachal Pradesh	1614	1599	1551
10	Jharkhand	7630	8110	7678
11	Karnataka	12680	14468	17813
12	Kerala	10139	13539	15213
13	Madhya Pradesh	25640	30673	32765
14	Maharashtra	31954	39526	45331
15	Manipur	247	302	248
16	Meghalaya	568	685	690
17	Mizoram	172	176	147
18	Nagaland	39	54	49
19	Odisha	25489	31352	23648
20	Punjab	4838	5662	5572
21	Rajasthan	34535	40738	45058
22	Sikkim	140	130	179
23	Tamil Nadu	6630	8501	9207
24	Telangana	17791	20865	22066
25	Tripura	874	807	752
26	Uttar Pradesh	49385	56083	65743
27	Uttarakhand	2846	3431	4337
28	West Bengal	36439	35884	34738
	TOTAL STATE(S)	357363	409273	426433
UNIC	ON TERRITORIES:			
29	A&N Islands	143	169	178
30	Chandigarh	301	343	325
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	61	99	126
32	Delhi	10093	14277	14247
33	Jammu & Kashmir	3405	3937	3716
34	Ladakh	9	18	15
35	Lakshadweep	15	9	16
36	Puducherry	113	153	200
	TOTAL UT(S)	14140	19005	18823
	TOTAL ALL INDIA	371503	428278	445256

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STATE/UT WISE DETAILS OF CASES REGISTERED FOR CRIME AGAINST CHILDREN DURING THE YEARS 2020, 2021 AND 2022 (SOURCE: NCRB)

SL	State/UT	2020	2021	2022
1	Andhra Pradesh	2648	2669	3308
2	Arunachal Pradesh	113	162	143
3	Assam	4622	5282	4084
4	Bihar	6591	6894	8122
5	Chhattisgarh	5056	6001	6177
6	Goa	125	151	184
7	Gujarat	4075	4515	4964
8	Haryana	4338	5700	6138
9	Himachal Pradesh	636	740	740
10	Jharkhand	1795	1867	1917
11	Karnataka	5471	7261	7988
12	Kerala	3941	4536	5640
13	Madhya Pradesh	17008	19173	20415
14	Maharashtra	14371	17261	20762
15	Manipur	125	143	120
16	Meghalaya	415	481	496
17	Mizoram	142	122	135
18	Nagaland	31	51	35
19	Odisha	6330	7899	8240
20	Punjab	2121	2556	2494
21	Rajasthan	6580	7653	9370
22	Sikkim	147	149	159
23	Tamil Nadu	4338	6064	6580
24	Telangana	4200	5667	5657
25	Tripura	260	236	220
26	Uttar Pradesh	15271	16838	18682
27	Uttarakhand	1066	1245	1706
28	West Bengal	10248	9523	8950
	TOTAL STATE(S)	122064	140839	153426
	UNION TERRITORIES:			
29	A&N Islands	141	124	146
30	Chandigarh	209	234	224
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	67	104	107
32	Delhi	5362	7118	7468
33	Jammu & Kashmir	606	845	920
34	Ladakh	2	1	8
35	Lakshadweep	9	17	11
36	Puducherry	71	122	139
	TOTAL UT(S)	6467	8565	9023
	TOTAL ALL INDIA	128531	149404	162449