

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 970
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2025

POCSO ACT

970: SHRI TANUJ PUNIA:

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

- (a) whether the Fast Track Courts have been set up to look into POCSO cases on priority basis to ensure effective and proper implementation of the POCSO Act, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the conviction rate in POCSO cases along with the reasons for the majority of child sexual abuse cases ending in acquittal;
- (c) whether the amendments made in POCSO Act by Government have led to significant decline in cases of sexual abuse against the children, by acting as a deterrent, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to create awareness regarding the POCSO Act?

ANSWER

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

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

The POCSO Act, 2012 was amended in 2019 to introduce more stringent punishments including death penalty for committing sexual crimes on children, with a view to deter the perpetrators & prevent such crimes. The POCSO Act, 2012 also provides for establishment of Special Courts for the purpose of ensuring speedy trial.

The Department of Justice (DoJ), Ministry of Law & Justice has informed that a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs)

including exclusive POCSO Courts for expeditious trial and disposal of Rape and POCSO Act cases was launched in October, 2019. The Scheme having been extended twice (with the latest extension up to 31st March 2026) provides for the establishment of 790 courts. The total financial outlay of the scheme is Rs. 1952.23 cr. with Rs. 1207.24 cr. as Central Share to be incurred from Nirbhaya Fund on the CSS pattern.

DoJ has also informed that as per the data provided by the High Courts, 773 FTSCs, including 400 exclusive POCSO Courts, are functional across 29 States/UTs as on 30.09.2025. Since the inception of the Scheme, these courts have collectively disposed of 3,50,685 cases, including 2,25,617 cases by exclusive POCSO courts.

Further, as per information provided by the High Courts, the average conviction rate in rape and POCSO Act cases handled under the Fast Track Special Courts Scheme stood at 18.59% in the year 2024. The State and UT - wise details of conviction rate under Fast Track Special Courts during 2024 is at **Annexure**.

Section 43 of the POCSO Act, 2012 provides that the Central Government and every State Government shall take all measures to give wide publicity to the provisions of the Act. In accordance with this, the Government has taken various steps from time to time to create awareness of the provisions of the POCSO Act through electronic and print media, consultations, workshops and training programmes with stakeholders concerned.

Ministry of Women & Child Development notified POCSO Rules, 2020 replacing the previous POCSO Rules, 2012. The POCSO Rules 2020 stipulate that the central government and every state government shall prepare age-appropriate educational material and curriculum for children, informing them about various aspects of personal safety. The Rules also stipulate that suitable material and information may be disseminated by the respective Governments in all public places such as panchayat bhavans, community centres, schools and colleges, bus terminals, railway stations, places of congregation, airports, taxi stands, cinema halls and such other prominent places and also be disseminated in suitable form in virtual spaces such as internet and social media.

Under Section 44 of the POCSO Act, 2012, and Rule 12 of the POCSO Rules, 2020, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has been mandated to monitor the implementation of the POCSO Act, 2012. To create awareness and facilitation of lodging of grievances pertaining to sexual offences and their effective processing, the NCPCR has undertaken the following initiatives:

1. **POCSO E-Box: NCPCR's Online Mechanism for Reporting Child Sexual Offences:** The POCSO e-Box is an online complaint-management system launched by the NCPCR to provide children a simple, confidential, and accessible platform to report incidents of sexual abuse or sexual offences under the POCSO Act, 2012. Designed as a child-friendly digital mechanism, the e-Box enables children, parents, teachers, or any concerned citizen to register complaints easily through the NCPCR website.
2. **NCPCR Guidelines on Support Persons under Section 39 of the POCSO Act, 2012:** NCPCR has formulated Guidelines with respect to Support Persons under

Section 39 of the POCSO Act in consultation with the State Governments and Union Territories to deal with cases of sexual abuse. These guidelines outline a structured mechanism for appointing and regulating Support Persons to assist child victims through a criminal justice process. They ensure that the child receives timely information about case progress, protection from secondary victimisation, coordination with police, medical authorities, and Special Courts, and help in accessing compensation, counselling, and rehabilitation services.

3. **POCSO Tracking Portal:** For expeditious redressal and to improve the post-investigation justice experience for victims, NCPCR has developed a dedicated POCSO Tracking Portal. It facilitates interdepartmental coordination between CWCs, DCPUs, Legal Services Authorities, and State Governments. This platform enables tracking and monitoring of compensation awarded to child victims, ensuring timely disbursement under relevant victim compensation schemes.
4. **IEC Materials on Sexual Offense:** NCPCR has made short videos on issues of sexual violence against children and POCSO for generating awareness. These videos are available on YouTube. NCPCR has also designed various leaflets and pamphlets as ready reference material for spreading awareness on salient provisions of POCSO Act, 2012.
5. **Review Meetings:** The Commission has been addressing issues of sexual violence against children through its periodic review meetings with key stakeholders at State and District levels.
6. **Organising Workshops and Conferences for Sensitization and Awareness:** NCPCR undertakes conferences, workshops at National, Regional, State and District level for various stakeholders for their sensitization and awareness.
7. **Awareness on POCSO Act through Textbooks:** NCPCR got included the details of POCSO E-Box in the NCERT Text books to create awareness amongst children.
8. **Manual on Safety and Security of Children in Schools:** NCPCR has developed a comprehensive manual on "Safety and Security of Children in Schools" for compliance and adherence of the safety parameters by the schools. It also includes information on Sexual Abuse and salient features of POCSO Act, 2012.

Additionally, Savitribai Phule National Institute of Women and Child Development (SPNIWCD) has also organised a number of training programmes of duty holders on POCSO Act and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse. The details of the same are as under:

A. Training Programmes POCSO Act:

Year	No. of Training Programmes organised	No. of Participants
2023-24	11	542
2024-25	14	752
2025-26	4	165
Total	29	1459

B. Training Programmes on Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse (April,2020 to March,2025) are as under:

Year	No. of Training Programmes organised	No. of Participants
2020-21	38	4078
2021-22	12	743
2022-23	13	751
2023-24	12	639
2024-25	14	813
Total	89	7024

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE TO THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 970 FOR 05.12.2025 REGARDING 'POCSO ACT' INDICATING STATE AND UT WISE DETAILS OF CONVICTION RATE UNDER FTSCS DURING 2024.

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Average Conviction rate (%)
1	Andhra Pradesh	5.19
2	Assam	35
3	Bihar	14.51
4	Chandigarh	16.915
5	Chhattisgarh	23.69
6	Delhi	8.59
7	Goa	9.69
8	Gujarat	9.53
9	Haryana	40.5
10	Himachal Pradesh	8.24
11	J&K	4.5
12	Jharkhand	14.78
13	Karnataka	8.1
14	Kerala	13
15	Madhya Pradesh	14.5
16	Maharashtra	6.07
17	Manipur	7
18	Meghalaya	45
19	Mizoram	33.5
20	Nagaland	25
21	Odisha	10.63
22	Puducherry	17.94
23	Punjab	47.19
24	Rajasthan	18.29
25	Tamil Nadu	25.82
26	Telangana	7
27	Tripura	5.3
28	Uttar Pradesh	25.11

29	Uttarakhand	22.5
30	West Bengal	2
