

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2513
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2026

DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT

2513. SHRI T R BAALU:

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

- (a) whether in India an average every day 20 women lose life due to dowry torture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the preventive/punitive actions taken by the Union and States during the last three years;
- (c) the details of culprits punished for dowry deaths and tortures during the last 3 years; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to make Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 more stringent, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes data on crimes, including crime against women, in its publication “Crime in India”, which is available on the website of NCRB <https://ncrb.gov.in>. The said report is available upto the year 2023. As per information provided by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the State/ UT wise details of cases registered, cases charge sheeted, cases convicted, persons arrested, persons charge sheeted and persons convicted under Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 during the years 2021-2023 are at **Annexure-I**. Further, the State/ UT wise cases registered, number of victims, cases charge sheeted, cases convicted, persons arrested, persons charge sheeted and persons convicted under Dowry Deaths (Section 304B of Indian Penal Code, 1860) during the years 2021-2023 are given at **Annexure-II**.

“Police” and “Public Order” are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including investigation and prosecution of cases of dowry and dowry death rests with the respective State Governments and they are competent to deal with it.

The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, have adequate provisions to tackle the menace of Dowry. The Act prohibits and penalizes giving or taking of dowry so as to safeguard women against dowry harassment. The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 defines dowry harassment within the purview of domestic

violence and provides remedies such as protection order, residence order, custody order, monetary relief, compensation order etc. under it.

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 “Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita”, “Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita”, “The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2006”, “The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961”. Besides these legal provisions there are multiple schemes and projects implemented by the Government 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; capacity building in community through awareness programmes, setting up/ strengthening of Women Help Desks (WHDs) at Police Stations etc.

One Stop Centre (OSC) scheme, which is fully funded by the central government is being implemented across the country since 1st April, 2015. It provides integrated support and assistance under one roof to women affected by violence and those in distress, both in private and public spaces. It also provides an integrated range of services including medical aid, legal aid and advice, temporary shelter, police assistance, psycho-social counselling to needy women. 896 OSCs are operational across the country and over 12.88 lakh women have been assisted upto 31st October, 2025.

To ensure that the Police Stations are more women friendly and approachable, as they would be the first and single point of contact for any woman walking into a police station 14,658 Women Help Desks (WHDs) have been set up, of which 13,011 are headed by women police officers. To provide help and support to needy women and women in distress, Emergency Response Support System (ERSS-112) has been established in all 36 States and UTs for various emergencies, with computer aided dispatch of field/ police resources. In addition to ERSS, a fully functional dedicated Women helpline (WHL-181) is operational in 35 States/ UTs except West Bengal. The WHL has also been integrated with ERSS. Till 31st December, 2025, Women Helplines have assisted over 96.37 lakh women.

Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has also undertaken several initiatives, which, inter-alia include training and skill development programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers. BPR&D has also prepared Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for “Women Help Desk at Police Stations” to ensure their smooth functioning by focusing on four critical components, viz. infrastructure, training, human resource development and response mechanism. A book titled “Women’s Safety and Security- a Handbook for First Responders and Investigators in the Police” has also been prepared for the purpose of prevention and investigation of crime against women with specific reference to the crime of sexual assault, which includes investigation, victim compensation and rehabilitation. Emphasis has been laid upon inculcating appropriate behavioural and attitudinal skills in the police force for prevention and detection of crimes against women and children and for proper interaction with the victims of crime. Webinars on women safety with sensitivity, gender sensitization of police personnel etc. have also been organized by BPR&D.

The Ministry also undertakes awareness exercise for safety and security of women and children from time to time. Further, the Government, through institutions like the National Commission for Women (NCW), National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and their counterparts in States have been spreading awareness through seminars,

workshops, audio-visual, print and electronic media etc. to sensitize the people about the safety and security of women and children including to sensitize about the evils of dowry system and also about various provisions of law. In addition, Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Home Affairs have issued advisories to States/ UTs from time to time on various issues pertaining to safety and security of women and children.

To make legal aid more accessible for women, the National Commission for Women (NCW) in collaboration with Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DSLISA) has launched a legal aid clinic which is a single-window facility for resolving grievances of women by providing free legal assistance. Similar Legal Aid Clinics have been set up in 17 States.

The Ministry has launched the 'Mission Shakti Portal' with all functional features on January 22, 2025. This portal aims to enhance accessibility of various government services for women, establish quality mechanisms for rescue, protection, and rehabilitation, and build the capacity of functionaries and duty holders under various schemes and legislations.

Furthermore, a National dashboard has been developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) for monitoring calls across all States/UTs implementing the Women Helpline. This dashboard enables real-time monitoring of calls received and women assisted. Through this system, the Central Government will be able to maintain centralized data on violence faced by women across India, categorized by types of cases, including instances of domestic violence.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2513 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2026 REGARDING 'DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT'.

The State/ UT-wise details of Cases Registered (CR), Cases Charge sheeted (CCS), Cases Convicted (CON), Persons Arrested (PAR), Persons Charge sheeted (PCS) and Persons Convicted (PCV) under 'Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961' during the years 2021-2023

2021							
SL	State/UT	CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	Andhra Pradesh	11	246	0	456	2576	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	582	338	1	700	435	1
4	Bihar	3362	2364	44	2837	3831	60
5	Chhattisgarh	8	6	0	20	20	0
6	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	3	3	0	8	8	0
8	Haryana	18	9	0	26	18	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	0	1	0	1	1	0
10	Jharkhand	1805	1293	82	1687	1735	91
11	Karnataka	1845	1806	29	4867	5264	52
12	Kerala	39	21	0	46	31	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	44	45	33	45	121	44
14	Maharashtra	40	23	0	18	53	0
15	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	465	406	0	159	535	0
20	Punjab	14	4	1	38	5	1
21	Rajasthan	4	0	1	0	0	2
22	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	281	156	5	695	439	17
24	Telangana	5	5	0	12	13	0
25	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	4594	3720	317	9529	15167	1267
27	Uttarakhand	414	238	0	80	472	0
28	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL STATE(S)	13534	10684	513	21224	30724	1535
29	A&N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	1	0	0	1	0	0
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Delhi	16	13	0	34	27	0

33	Jammu & Kashmir	4	4	0	12	12	0
34	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	13	2	0	46	9	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	34	19	0	93	48	0
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	13568	10703	513	21317	30772	1535

2022							
SL	State/UT	CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	Andhra Pradesh	298	308	4	1239	1281	13
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	272	285	0	423	373	0
4	Bihar	3580	3711	43	4974	5281	58
5	Chhattisgarh	9	7	2	16	16	8
6	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	1	1	0	1	1	0
8	Haryana	17	8	0	11	11	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	1	0	0	0	0	0
10	Jharkhand	1796	1498	126	2005	2017	153
11	Karnataka	2224	1734	7	5392	5484	11
12	Kerala	28	39	0	65	61	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	63	60	246	36	177	269
14	Maharashtra	28	38	0	43	64	0
15	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Meghalaya	3	1	0	0	1	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	34	31	4	1	51	4
20	Punjab	4	3	0	7	5	0
21	Rajasthan	8	0	0	0	0	0
22	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	220	197	2	836	658	5
24	Telangana	6	5	0	0	8	0
25	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	4807	4565	1413	8060	16577	2651
27	Uttarakhand	38	29	0	4	125	0
28	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL STATE(S)	13437	12520	1847	23113	32191	3172
29	A&N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Delhi	18	8	0	43	23	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir	17	13	0	46	45	0
34	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0

36	Puducherry	7	6	0	32	13	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	42	27	0	121	81	0
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	13479	12547	1847	23234	32272	3172

2023							
SL	State/UT	CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	Andhra Pradesh	353	194	0	58	675	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	162	154	0	207	178	0
4	Bihar	3665	3385	126	4362	5236	206
5	Chhattisgarh	8	7	1	21	21	2
6	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	3	3	0	13	13	0
8	Haryana	14	5	0	8	8	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	2	1	0	0	5	0
10	Jharkhand	1487	1595	271	1965	2405	300
11	Karnataka	2322	2113	8	5697	5837	16
12	Kerala	21	15	0	24	27	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	65	60	3	15	191	3
14	Maharashtra	17	17	0	10	41	0
15	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Meghalaya	2	2	0	1	6	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	5	5	5	0	426	5
20	Punjab	4	6	3	5	8	5
21	Rajasthan	1	1	0	3	3	0
22	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	144	158	3	586	334	8
24	Telangana	4	6	0	0	10	0
25	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	7151	6112	628	14054	26047	1110
27	Uttarakhand	14	11	6	3	31	9
28	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL STATE(S)	15444	13850	1054	27032	41502	1664
29	A&N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	1	0	0	1	0
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Delhi	16	21	1	37	37	4
33	Jammu & Kashmir	15	13	0	35	34	0
34	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	14	8	0	50	31	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	45	43	1	122	103	4
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	15489	13893	1055	27154	41605	1668

Annexure-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2513 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2026 REGARDING 'DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT'.

State/UT-wise details of Cases Registered (CR), Number of Victims (VIC), Cases Charge sheeted (CCS), Cases Convicted (CON), Persons Arrested (PAR), Persons Charge sheeted (PCS) and Persons Convicted (PCV) under 'Dowry Deaths (Sec.304B IPC)' during the years 2021-2023

		2021						
SL	State/UT	CR	VIC	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	Andhra Pradesh	108	109	159	9	354	416	20
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	198	198	164	1	323	168	1
4	Bihar	1000	1000	931	128	1678	1420	149
5	Chhattisgarh	65	65	66	11	190	190	21
6	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	11	11	10	1	31	31	2
8	Haryana	275	275	220	16	367	362	26
9	Himachal Pradesh	2	2	1	0	2	2	0
10	Jharkhand	281	281	229	47	326	321	52
11	Karnataka	158	163	175	14	411	411	36
12	Kerala	9	9	9	0	22	11	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	522	523	509	136	1516	1495	337
14	Maharashtra	172	172	188	8	695	590	25
15	Manipur	2	2	0	0	1	0	0
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	293	293	352	5	599	646	5
20	Punjab	69	69	53	11	182	127	24
21	Rajasthan	452	454	341	98	466	454	132
22	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	27	27	21	12	67	52	23
24	Telangana	175	175	178	7	450	403	15
25	Tripura	22	22	32	3	71	62	3
26	Uttar Pradesh	2222	2235	1886	439	6073	5202	1063
27	Uttarakhand	72	72	55	6	106	91	10
28	West Bengal	454	471	490	5	721	900	10
	TOTAL STATE(S)	6589	6628	6069	957	14651	13354	1954
29	A&N Islands	1	1	1	0	1	5	0
30	Chandigarh	4	4	1	1	9	4	2
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
32	Delhi	141	144	122	6	279	230	13
33	Jammu & Kashmir	16	16	14	0	34	34	0
34	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	2	2	1	0	4	2	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	164	167	140	7	328	276	15
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	6753	6795	6209	964	14979	13630	1969

		2022						
SL	State/UT	CR	VIC	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	Andhra Pradesh	100	101	107	8	352	292	15
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	175	195	222	7	409	276	9
4	Bihar	1057	1057	1100	89	1787	2391	128
5	Chhattisgarh	57	63	56	27	163	156	70
6	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	10	10	8	0	28	28	0
8	Haryana	234	234	173	20	265	238	32
9	Himachal Pradesh	1	1	0	0	3	0	0
10	Jharkhand	208	214	191	61	299	312	77
11	Karnataka	165	166	134	1	343	311	6
12	Kerala	11	12	16	1	36	32	1
13	Madhya Pradesh	518	520	513	185	1310	1314	403
14	Maharashtra	180	184	171	7	652	459	11
15	Manipur	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
16	Meghalaya	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	263	263	276	19	280	576	23
20	Punjab	71	71	61	4	146	143	10
21	Rajasthan	451	451	300	66	401	396	93
22	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	29	29	25	6	74	58	9
24	Telangana	137	137	186	24	414	387	53
25	Tripura	25	25	28	1	50	61	1
26	Uttar Pradesh	2138	2142	1946	686	6076	5307	1608
27	Uttarakhand	70	70	65	3	116	112	12
28	West Bengal	406	427	421	14	682	790	26
	TOTAL STATE(S)	6307	6373	6000	1229	13887	13640	2587
29	A&N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	1	1	2	1	0	12	3
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu+	1	1	1	0	6	4	0
32	Delhi	131	131	144	1	300	245	1
33	Jammu & Kashmir	9	9	10	0	32	32	0
34	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	1	1	4	0	7	7	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	143	143	161	2	345	300	4
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	6450	6516	6161	1231	14232	13940	2591

2023								
SL	State/UT	CR	VIC	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	Andhra Pradesh	95	96	89	17	296	255	37
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	0	0	2	0	0
3	Assam	101	107	130	7	223	186	7
4	Bihar	1143	1143	1198	73	2362	2297	107
5	Chhattisgarh	46	49	50	13	144	140	39
6	Goa	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	12	12	12	0	35	35	0
8	Haryana	207	211	156	21	225	219	30
9	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	1	0	0	3	0
10	Jharkhand	218	228	230	92	316	385	98
11	Karnataka	156	160	159	6	407	394	9
12	Kerala	8	8	10	0	13	16	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	468	469	437	193	1235	1244	450
14	Maharashtra	170	173	159	7	508	414	21
15	Manipur	1	1	0	0	6	0	0
16	Meghalaya	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	231	231	218	18	229	533	26
20	Punjab	44	44	48	6	127	95	14
21	Rajasthan	428	430	272	60	337	336	90
22	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	11	11	23	8	34	36	12
24	Telangana	145	147	155	26	438	369	53
25	Tripura	21	21	28	5	55	55	8
26	Uttar Pradesh	2122	2141	1953	887	5500	5175	2086
27	Uttarakhand	48	48	46	25	49	92	39
28	West Bengal	350	350	371	8	597	1006	24
	TOTAL STATE(S)	6027	6082	5746	1473	13139	13286	3151
29	A&N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	4	4	3	0	6	4	0
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu+	0	0	2	1	8	8	1
32	Delhi	115	115	131	26	269	210	49
33	Jammu & Kashmir	9	9	6	1	10	10	1
34	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	1	1	0	0	4	0	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	129	129	142	28	297	232	51
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	6156	6211	5888	1501	13436	13518	3202
