

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 1078
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2026

Schemes for the Safety of Women

†1078. Shri Anil Yeshwant Desai:

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

- (a) whether crime against women have increased significantly in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of cases of crime against women registered in the country during the last five years, State-wise;
- (c) the number of sexual harassment at workplace cases reported during the said period along with the status of their disposal;
- (d) the details of the schemes being run by the Government to ensure the safety of women;
- (e) the manner in which the Government has evaluated the effectiveness of women's helplines and emergency services; and
- (f) the details of the steps being taken to increase the safety and awareness of women in urban and rural areas?

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

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

The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under Ministry of Home Affairs, compiles and publishes statistical data on crimes in its publication “Crime in India”. The latest published report pertains to the year 2024 and is available at its website <https://ncrb.gov.in/en/crime-india>. As reported by NCRB, the data of State and UT-wise cases registered under Crime against Women during 2020-2024 is at **Annexure–I**. Among other reasons, increased reporting of crime is attributable to the increased level of awareness among citizens due to various measures taken by government in the last few years including the operationalisation of helplines such as Women Helpline -181, Child Helpline - 1098 and Emergency Response Support System (ERSS-112), concept of Zero FIR and e-FIR and provision of institutional support to the survivors.

(c): The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) launched the Sexual Harassment Electronic Box (SHe-Box) Portal (<https://shebox.wcd.gov.in/>), as a digital governance initiative on August 29, 2024, for effective implementation of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (POSH Act).

The POSH Act mandates the Appropriate Government to monitor the implementation of the Act and maintain data on number of cases filed and disposed of under Act. It provides for constitution of Internal Committee (IC) where the number of employees is 10 or more and also mandates for constitution of Local Committee (LC) by the District Officer notified under the Act to deal with the cases of workplaces where the number of employees is less than 10 or when the complaint is against the employer itself.

SHe-Box Portal is not a mechanism for statutory or regulatory oversight; it is only an IT aid to provide a centralized online system to facilitate dissemination of information about the ICs and LCs constituted at various workplaces so that any aggrieved woman may file complaint in a secure and hassle-free manner and track its progress. However, as mandated under the POSH Act, the appropriate Governments are responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Act.

The Portal provides options for disposal of complaints in accordance with relevant provisions under the POSH Act including Section 12 to 15 and Rules 7 to 10 under POSH Rules. Details of complaints registered and disposed on the SHe- Box Portal since its launch on 29th August, 2024 (as on 21.07.2026) are as below:

Workplace/ Sector	No. of Complaints received	No. of Complaints Disposed
Central	223	139
State	157	61
Private	130	8

Total	510	208
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(d) to (f): Safety of women is of utmost priority for the Government. It has been Government's endeavour to put in place effective mechanisms to provide a safe environment for women to work and live and fulfil their potential. However, "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including investigation and prosecution of crime against women and children rests primarily with the respective State Governments and they are competent to deal with it. Government of India implements various schemes and projects like One Stop Centres (OSCs) for providing support and integrated range of services under one roof to the women affected by violence and those in distress such as Police Facilitation, Medical Aid, Psycho-social Counselling, Legal Aid and Counselling and Temporary Shelters across the country; Women Helpline (WHL) running on toll free telephonic short code 181 to facilitate emergency and non-emergency services and information about Government Schemes and facilities to women; Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) to raise awareness about gender biased sex selection and about education and issues relating to empowerment of girls and Shakti Sadan for women in difficult circumstances or destitution under umbrella scheme of Mission Shakti.

The MWCD provides financial assistance, technical support and facilitates implementation of the Women Helpline (WHL) scheme as per the Mission Shakti Guidelines. The implementation of scheme lies with the respective State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. Women Helpline-181 functions as a universal, toll-free, 24x7 support mechanism for women in distress as well as for women seeking information regarding Government schemes and services.

Women Helpline has been integrated with ERSS-112, Child Helpline, One Stop Centres and other support services to facilitate timely response and coordinated assistance to women in distress. 657 OSCs have been integrated with Women Helpline across the country. The integration enables seamless transfer of calls and case information from the WHL Control Room at the State level to the concerned OSC at the district level, wherever intervention by OSC functionaries is required. The integration process involves technical readiness, onboarding of States and UTs, availability of required infrastructure, user creation, training of functionaries, testing of workflows and coordination with the concerned State and UT authorities.

The MWCD 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. Also, the Mission Shakti Mobile App is an initiative by the Ministry to enhance accessibility to support services for women. The app ensures quick, reliable, and inclusive access to essential services for women nationwide. The app offers a user-friendly platform with key features including OSC appointment Booking, Locating nearest Institute with Google Maps integration, AI Chatbot: 24/7 virtual support on MWCD schemes and services, Emergency Helpline (181)- in-app access for immediate assistance, etc.

Further, schemes/ projects implemented by Central Government under Nirbhaya Fund includes, Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) which is a pan-India single number (112)/ mobile app based system for emergencies; 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 24 States and 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 etc.

Funded through Nirbhaya Fund, Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has also undertaken several initiatives, which, inter-alia includes training and skill development programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers, distribution of Sexual Assault Evidence Collection (SAEC) Kits to States/ UTs. BPR&D has also prepared Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for 'Women Help Desk at Police Stations' to ensure smooth functioning of Women Help Desks by focusing on four critical components viz. infrastructure, training, human resource development and response mechanism.

The Government, through institutions like the National Commission for Women (NCW), Savitribai Phule National Institute of Women and Child Development (SPNIWCD) 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. The National Commission for Women (NCW), in addition to handling complaints through regular mode, assists women in distress through a dedicated 24x7 Helpline -14490 to provide Digital Complaint Registration System for women affected by violence through referral (Linking with appropriate authority such as

police, One Stop Centre, hospital) and providing information about women related government programmes across the country.

To strengthen the mechanism for online safety and to deal with cyber-crimes in a comprehensive and coordinated manner, the Ministry of Home Affairs has set up the 'Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre' (I4C) as an attached office to deal with all types of cybercrime in the country, in a coordinated and comprehensive manner. The 'National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal' (<https://cybercrime.gov.in>) has been launched, as a part of the I4C, to enable public to report incidents pertaining to all types of cyber-crimes, with special focus on cyber-crimes against women and children. Cyber-crime incidents reported on this portal, their conversion into FIRs and subsequent action thereon are handled by the Law Enforcement Agencies of State and UT concerned, as per the provision of law.

Annexure-I

State and UT-wise Cases Registered under Crime against Women during 2020-2024

SL	State and UT	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1	Andhra Pradesh	17089	17752	25503	22418	19952
2	Arunachal Pradesh	281	366	335	326	321
3	Assam	26352	29046	14148	12070	10546
4	Bihar	15359	17950	20222	22952	27359
5	Chhattisgarh	7385	7344	8693	8035	8601
6	Goa	219	224	273	286	356
7	Gujarat	8028	7348	7731	7805	7606
8	Haryana	13000	16658	16743	15758	13945
9	Himachal Pradesh	1614	1599	1551	1604	1605
10	Jharkhand	7630	8110	7678	6989	6367
11	Karnataka	12680	14468	17813	20336	19945
12	Kerala	10139	13539	15213	16025	15037
13	Madhya Pradesh	25640	30673	32765	32342	32832
14	Maharashtra	31954	39526	45331	47101	47954
15	Manipur	247	302	248	201	195
16	Meghalaya	568	685	690	628	658
17	Mizoram	172	176	147	184	259
18	Nagaland	39	54	49	56	56
19	Odisha	25489	31352	23648	25914	27449

20	Punjab	4838	5662	5572	5258	5348
21	Rajasthan	34535	40738	45058	45450	36563
22	Sikkim	140	130	179	134	131
23	Tamil Nadu	6630	8501	9207	8943	11363
24	Telangana	17791	20865	22066	23678	24495
25	Tripura	874	807	752	791	716
26	Uttar Pradesh	49385	56083	65743	66381	66398
27	Uttarakhand	2846	3431	4337	3808	3342
28	West Bengal	36439	35884	34738	34691	34360
	TOTAL STATE(S)	357363	409273	426433	430164	423759
29	A&N Islands	143	169	178	205	156
30	Chandigarh	301	343	325	371	452
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu+	61	99	126	124	86
32	Delhi	10093	14277	14247	13439	13396
33	Jammu & Kashmir*	3405	3937	3716	3653	3366
34	Ladakh	9	18	15	20	34
35	Lakshadweep	15	9	16	23	13
36	Puducherry	113	153	200	212	272
	TOTAL UT(S)	14140	19005	18823	18047	17775
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	371503	428278	445256	448211	441534
