

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2617**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2ND AUGUST, 2022/ SRAVANA 11, 1944 (SAKA)

DOWRY RELATED HARASSMENT

2617. SHRI P.C. MOHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an increase in dowry related harassment cases since 2021;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of such cases reported/registered and rate of conviction; and**
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)**

(a) to (b) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes information on crimes in its publication "Crime in India". The latest report is of the year 2020. As per NCRB data, a total of 12826, 13307 and 10366 cases were registered in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively. The conviction rate was 24.1, 21.5 and 38.9 for the year 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively.

(c) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibilities to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including

investigation and prosecution of crime against women rest with them. The States/Union Territories are competent to deal with any such offences under the extant provisions of laws.

Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and the Indian Penal Code (IPC) have adequate provisions to tackle the menace. The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 prohibits and penalizes giving or taking of dowry so as to safeguard women against dowry harassment.

However, Ministry of Home Affairs has advised all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, to take the following measures:

- a. Dowry related cases must be adjudicated expeditiously to avoid further harassment of the women.**
- b. Appointment of Dowry Prohibition Officers and notification of the Rules under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.**

Ministry of Home Affairs has also issued advisories to all States/UTs from time to time advising them to deal with crimes against women. These Advisories are available at www.mha.gov.in.

Further, as per available information, the Ministry of Women and Child Development undertakes awareness exercise for safety and security of

women. The Government through institutions like the National Commission for Women and State Women Commissions have been spreading awareness through seminars, workshops etc. to sensitize people about the evils of dowry system and various provisions of related laws etc.
