

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3754
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.08.2025**

AMENDMENT TO STRENGTHEN THE PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES ACT

3754. SHRI K RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of implementation of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 in various States and Union Territories, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the total number of cases registered, charge-sheeted, and convicted under the Act in the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether there is any mechanism in place to ensure timely investigation, charge-sheet filing and conviction in atrocity cases under this Act;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, including the average time taken for investigation and trial;
- (e) whether the Government has received any representations or recommendations for amending the SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989 in recent years;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (g) whether the Government is considering any amendment to strengthen the Act further or address gaps in its enforcement, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

(a) & (b): The Scheduled Castes (SCs) and the Scheduled Tribes (STs) (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 extends to the whole of India. National Crimes Record Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes statistical data on crimes in its publication 'Crime in India'. The published reports are available till the year 2022. As per the NCRB data, the details of number of cases registered, Charge-sheeted and convicted across the country under the Act during the year 2020 to 2022 is at **Annexure-I**.

(c) & (d): To make the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (PoA) Act, 1989 more effective and to provide greater justice and enhanced redressal to injustice suffered by the atrocity victims, the Act was amended and notified in 2016. The amendment includes new offences, expanded scope of presumptions, institutional strengthening, which inter-alia includes establishment of Exclusive Special Courts and specification of Exclusive Special public Prosecutors to exclusively try offences under the PoA Act to enable expeditious disposal of cases, power of Special and Exclusive Special Courts to take direct cognizance of

offences and as far as possible, completion of trial within two months from the date of filing of the charge sheet, establishing rights of victims and witnesses, and strengthening preventive measures. For the purpose of providing speedy trial and expedite justice delivery 145 Special Police Stations and 211 Exclusive Special Courts have also been established in various States/UTs.

Further, section 18 of the Act was amended through the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2018 and enforced on 20.08.2018. After this amendment, conduct of a preliminary enquiry before registration of an FIR or to seek approval of any authority prior to arrest of an accused is not required.

At the Central level, a Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, with the Union Minister for Tribal Affairs as Co-chairperson, and comprising members from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, Department of Justice, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, and three non-official members (two from among the SCs and one from the STs), also reviews the implementation status of the PCR and PoA Act in States and Union Territories. The Committee has so far held twenty-eight meetings; the last meeting was held on 23.05.2025.

In addition to above Central Level Committee, State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee, District and Sub-Division Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have also been set up to monitor the implementation of the Acts.

As per rule 6 of the SC/ST (PoA) Rules, 1995, the District Magistrate or the Sub-Divisional Magistrate or any other executive Magistrate or any police officer not below the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police must visit the site of occurrence of atrocity, assess the situation and submit a report to the State Government. Furthermore, they are responsible for identifying victims and their dependents, preparing detailed reports, ordering police protection and providing immediate relief.

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) provide safeguards against the exploitation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to promote and protect their social, educational, economic and cultural interests, respectively.

(e) & (f): Yes, the Department is in receipt of representation from general public for amending the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. Recent representations have been received for carrying out amendments in the SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989, after the replacement of IPC, CrPC & IEA with BNS, BNSS, BSA. The Department has informed the applicants that in accordance with Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice Notification no. S.O. 2790 (E) dated 16th July, 2024 there is no requirement for carrying out said amendments in the SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989.

(g): No such proposal is under consideration.

State/UT-wise Cases Registered (CR), Cases Chargesheeted (CCS) and Cases Convicted (CON) under SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act (With & Without IPC) under Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes during 2020-2022

SL	State/UT	Scheduled Castes									Scheduled Tribes								
		2020			2021			2022			2020			2021			2022		
		CR	CCS	CON	CR	CCS	CON	CR	CCS	CON	CR	CCS	CON	CR	CCS	CON	CR	CCS	CON
1	Andhra Pradesh	1948	1613	37	2010	1913	19	2315	1571	42	320	234	1	361	346	3	396	280	2
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	28	3	0	13	3	0	14	3	0	10	0	0	16	9	0	9	7	1
4	Bihar	7368	5453	12	5842	4588	48	6509	5135	146	94	75	0	103	66	4	146	102	1
5	Chhattisgarh	316	280	23	330	337	20	323	358	253	502	462	47	506	512	27	516	546	200
6	Goa	2	1	0	4	3	0	8	7	0	2	2	0	5	4	0	1	1	1
7	Gujarat	1326	1203	3	1201	1144	8	1279	1182	12	291	253	1	341	328	0	330	286	6
8	Haryana	1210	632	6	1628	738	44	1633	744	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	247	183	1	243	143	2	209	148	5	3	1	0	7	6	0	4	4	0
10	Jharkhand	666	292	14	546	460	28	674	318	28	347	86	8	250	144	17	283	121	21
11	Karnataka	1394	1205	17	1673	1556	10	1972	1634	15	291	261	1	358	342	0	438	341	3
12	Kerala	846	655	7	948	1111	42	1050	957	50	130	109	7	133	112	9	172	174	11
13	Madhya Pradesh	6899	6718	538	7213	7236	720	7733	7588	902	2401	2362	151	2627	2547	336	2979	2913	417
14	Maharashtra	2569	2132	39	2503	2357	45	2741	2371	89	663	633	12	628	557	12	742	591	25
15	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	29	29	2
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	2046	2088	5	2327	2032	1	2902	3090	40	624	575	0	676	647	0	773	807	9
20	Punjab	165	97	4	200	96	6	162	69	11	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Rajasthan	7017	3328	572	7524	3726	583	8752	4031	631	1878	918	114	2121	950	125	2521	1109	183
22	Sikkim	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	4	1	0
23	Tamil Nadu	1273	968	129	1376	1049	104	1761	1296	138	23	14	0	39	18	0	67	59	0
24	Telangana	1959	1534	13	1770	1550	30	1787	1979	44	573	407	2	512	505	7	545	575	18
25	Tripura	2	0	0	3	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	12714	10489	1820	13146	11358	1930	15368	12996	3168	3	3	1	4	3	0	5	4	0
27	Uttarakhand	87	64	0	123	87	0	114	99	0	13	11	2	6	4	0	1	1	0
28	West Bengal	109	128	0	108	122	0	104	123	0	90	69	0	92	73	0	90	101	1
	TOTAL STATE(S)	50191	39067	3240	50733	41610	3640	57420	45705	5629	8266	6476	347	8787	7174	548	10055	8052	901
29	A&N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	3	4	0	3	3	0
30	Chandigarh	3	0	1	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	5	4	0
32	Delhi	69	59	0	136	100	0	130	99	0	1	3	0	5	3	0	0	1	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir	4	0	0	3	2	0	6	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
34	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
36	Puducherry	0	0	0	7	6	0	9	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	77	60	1	146	109	0	149	110	0	4	7	0	12	8	0	9	10	0
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	50268	39127	3241	50879	41719	3640	57569	45815	5629	8270	6483	347	8799	7182	548	10064	8062	901

Source: Crime in India published by NCRB