

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:511
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2000
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;MINATI SEN

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have received any reports recently from the National Commission for Women regarding the different crimes being committed against women;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Union Government have taken any concrete measures for the empowerment of women in all the spheres of public life;
- (d) whether any task force has been constituted to prevent crimes against women; and
- (e) if so, its terms of reference?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a),(b)&(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement referred to in the reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 511 for 2-5-2000 by Smt.Minati Sen and Shri Ashok N.Mohol regarding National Commission for women

(a)& (b): The Government has received the following reports from the National Commission for Women

(NCW):

S.No	Subject of the report received by the Govt. on	NCW Report
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1	Suicide committed by Ms.Chitra, wife of Shri Ravi after sexual assault and torture by the police in Chennai, Tamil Nadu on the night of 12-13 October, 1998	1-4-99
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2	Gang rape of Smt.Anjana Mishra by three men in Bhubaneswar, Orissa on 9th January, '99	1-4-99
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3	Gang rape of Scheduled Caste women in Sanhauli village of District Darbhanga, Bihar on 9th July, '98	30-12-99
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Besides the above, the Government had received a copy of the Report of National Commission for Women on the alleged incident of sexual harassment of female employees by the Principal of Delhi Public School, Faridabad, Haryana from the Registrar of Supreme Court of India on 2nd August, '99. The Hon'ble Supreme Court had admitted the Commission's report as a Writ Petition under Article 32 of the Constitution of India. The matter contained in the report is sub-judice.

(c): The paradigm for social development has been changing, with greater attention to gender issues at the national level. The Government has been formulating various strategies and interventions to bring women into the mainstream of national life.

The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments in 1993 brought about a definite impact on the participation of women in the democratic institutions at the grass-root levels through the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and local bodies.

The Government has also introduced the Constitution (Eighty Fifth) Amendment Bill, 1999 in Lok Sabha for providing reservation of one-third of seats for women in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.

Schemes such as Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP), Setting up of employment and Income Generating Training-cum-Production Units for women (NORAD), Socio-Economic Programme (SEP), Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY) are being implemented by the Department Women and Child Development for the advancement of Women.

The earlier successful experiences of the Scheme of Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) in improving the income levels and empowerment of women has been given further thrust by stipulating that 50 percent of groups formed under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana should be of women. 30% has been earmarked for women in most of the wage employment programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development.

Government has launched many community based schemes like District Primary Education Programme, Lok Jumbish, Non-Formal Education, Total Literacy Campaigns etc. in the education sector. Besides, Mahila Samakhya Programme has been launched with thrust on education for equality which seeks to bring about changes in women's perspective about themselves and that of the society in regard to women's traditional roles. The Programme attempts to create an environment for women to seek knowledge and information in order to make informed choices and learn at their own pace.

Schemes for housing and shelter, educational infrastructure, health care system, support services like child care facilities, short stay homes for women, hostels for working women, schemes for provision of drinking water and sanitation, conservation of environment and social security schemes to take care of disadvantaged rural women are all geared towards improving the condition of women and ensuring their better participation in public life. Monitoring and Evaluation studies are continuously taken up both within the Government and outside, for mid-course reviews and feedback on implementation and necessary rectifications.

For creating awareness about the rights of women, schemes such as Awareness Generation programme, Education work for Prevention of Atrocities Against women have been launched.