

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4713

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2005

AMENDMENTS IN INDECENT PRESENTATION OF WOMEN PROHIBITION ACT, 1986

Singh Shri Sugrib

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

- (a) whether there has been an increase of provocative advertisements by indecent presentation of women;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the National Commission for Women has recommended amendments in the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the action so far taken by the Union Government in this regard; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to check the violation of Act?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH)

(a)&(b) No data is maintained centrally about the quantity or nature of advertisements in various media.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) the main recommendations made by the National Commission for Women are as follows:-

(i) amendments in the definition of the terms 'advertisement' and 'indecent representation of women' to widen its scope and to include electronic media within its ambit.

(ii) voluntary organizations engaged in the field of welfare and development of women be authorized to make complaints to the competent court about instance of violation of the provisions of the Act.

(iii) Increase in the quantum of punishment for contravention of the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of the Act.

(e) Consultations are being held with the concerned Ministries/Departments with a view to finalise the amendments to be proposed.

(f) The responsibility for implementing the provisions of the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 vests with the State Governments. Section 5 of the Act empowers Gazetted Officers duly authorized by the State Government to enter and search the premises involved or suspected to be involved in the offences under the Act and to seize any advertisement or book, pamphlet, paper, slide, film, writing, drawing, painting, photograph, representation or figure which he has reason to believe contravenes any of the provisions of the Act.