

ernment for the establishment of a naval ordnance factory in that State; and

(b) if so, what action the Central Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) and (b) In response to the request received in October, 1977 from the Chief Minister of Kerala, he was informed that there were no plan₃ to set up any new Defence Production Units and the claims of Kerala State would receive full consideration while considering any future proposals.

Atrocities on Harijans

♦51. SHRI KISHAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) what is the number of atrocities committed on Harijans and weaker sections of society after March 1977 to-date, Statewise;

(b) whether the State Governments concerned have constituted any enquiry commission to find out the causes for the same;

(c) if so, what is the number of commissions so constituted and whether any reports have been submitted by them to the State Governments; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to remedy the menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The number of cases of crimes committed against Scheduled Caste_a after 1977 is a_s indicated in the Annexure to the Statement. No such figures are

separately kept for weaker section_B of the society.

Information is being collected from the State Governments whether they have appointed an_v Inquiry Commission to find out the causes for the above crimes, and if so, the report submitted by them is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

Government had already recommended a number of steps to the State Governments not only to prevent such crimes against Scheduled Castes but also to deal with them when they do occur. Some of the important steps are:—

(i) Administrative measures should be taken up to tone up the Police Administration and especially the agencies dealing with collection of intelligence.

(ii) Preventive measure_a should be taken well-in-time on the basis of the intelligence received, including posting of Police and Armed Police pickets.

(iii) In such crime prone_e areas, gun_n licences should be suspended, and even cancelled, belonging to person_s who are likely to indulge in such crimes.

(iv) A sustained drive should be launched for un-earting illicit arms and ammunition in such areas.

(v) The crimes should be speedily investigated and the offenders brought to book without delay.

(vi) Special Judges may be appointed to speed up trials of such offenders so as to have a deterrent effect on them.

(vii) Relief should be rendered to the victims immediately and their rehabilitation expedited.

(viii) Peace Committees should be formed in such area_s consisting of respectable persons from various castes and group_s so as to bring a permanent re-conciliation.

(ix) The Minimum Wages Act for Agricultural labour should be enforced vigorously.

(x) Communication facilities, specially the roads, should be improved in the interior areas.

Government has also emphasised the importance of economic development of the Scheduled Castes and have initiated necessary measures particularly through the mechanism of Special Component Plan and Development Corporations for the Scheduled Caste*.

Annexure

Number of cases of crimes against members of Scheduled Castes in the various States/UTs during 1977 (April to December), 1978 and 1979 based on data furnished by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of cases reported		
		1977 (April to December)	1978	1979
1	Andhra Pradesh	74	110	88 (upto Nov.)
2	Assam	..	1	..
3	Bihar	560	1911	1824 (upto Oct.)
4	Gujarat	312	540	475
5	Himachal Pradesh	41	66	83
6	Haryana	23	66	80
7	Jammu & Kashmir
8	Karnataka	59	376	500
9	Kerala	227	767	839 (upto Nov.)
10	Madhya Pradesh	2736	3240	3866
11	Maharashtra	500	1053	475 (upto Nov.)
12	Orissa	65	135	43
13	Punjab	58	83	171
14	Rajasthan	261*	886	760
15	Tamil Nadu	54	141	91 (upto August)
16	Uttar Pradesh	4019	5660	4102
17	West Bengal	7	6	2 (upto July)
18	Delhi	3	14	3
19	Pondicherry	9	14	19
20	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	1	—
TOTAL		9,014	15,070	13,426

Information in respect of remaining States/UTs is Nil.

The total includes 3 incidents for Goa, Daman and Diu and 2 for Arunachal Pradesh (1979)

*Pertains to whole Calendar year.