

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 plans 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 Castes after 1977 is as indicated in the Annexure to the Statement. No such figures are

separately kept for weaker sections of the society.

Information is being collected from the State Governments whether they have appointed any 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 tune up the Police Administration and especially the agencies dealing with collection of intelligence.

(ii) Preventive measures 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 areas, gun licences should be suspended, and even cancelled, belonging to persons who are likely to indulge in such crimes.

(iv) A sustained drive should be launched for un-earthing 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 areas consisting of respectable persons from various castes and groups 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 Castes.

#### 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 Calender year.