

march was conducted. Another four columns of army were kept as standby. The situation could be brought under control within 24 hours.

The Government of Assam has announced an *ex gratia* payment of Rs 5.00 (five) lakh to the next of kin of those died in police firing and compensation of Rs. 50,000.00 to the injured persons. Necessary arrangements for food, shelter, health, sanitation and water supply facilities have been provided to the persons staying in the relief camps. As on 28.02.2013, 10,080 persons were staying in the relief camps set up by the State Government, and 8,816 persons had moved to their native places/villages.

The State Government has instituted a One Man Judicial Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice Sri P.C. Phukan to enquire into the incidents.

At present the situation in Goalpara District is under control and is being monitored regularly by the State Government. Curfew has been withdrawn from the affected areas from 15th February, 2013. Army has also been derequisitioned from 18th February, 2013.

Action Plan to control crime against women

*139. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Apex Court has expressed concern over rise in crime against women in the country;
- (b) if so, what is the State/UT-wise status of the above menace;
- (c) what is the current action plan of Government to address the above concern; and
- (d) how far Government has succeeded in its mission to control and bring down this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) The Ministry has not received any order from the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in which such a concern has been expressed.

(b) As per information provided by National Crime records Bureau (NCRB), a total number of 2,03,804, 2,13,585 and 2,28,650 cases of atrocities against women

were registered during 2009 - 2011 respectively. The State-wise details of cases are given in Annexure [See Appendix 228 Annexure No. 13].

(c) As per seventh schedule to the Constitution of India "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects and, as such, the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime, lies with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, Government of India is deeply concerned with the welfare of women and through various schemes and advisories to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, augments the efforts of the States/UTs.

(d) The Ministry of Home Affairs also convened a conference of Chief Secretaries and Director Generals of Police on the subject which was held in New Delhi on 4th January, 2013. The meeting was presided by the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs, Minister of Women and Child Development, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment and Hon'ble Ministers of State for Home Affairs.

The representatives deliberated on various measures of crime prevention, women safety, changes on law, organization, investigation processes and expeditious trials to improve safety and security of women and children. The Central and State Governments are constantly engaged in efforts for enforcing deterrence against crimes on women and children and monitoring the same on a regular basis.

The Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 2013 has been promulgated on the 4th February, 2013 provide for stringent punishments for crimes against women.

Rethink on death penalty

*140. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Amnesty International India has asked Government to stop regressive trend of executions;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India sent as many as 1455 persons to gallows between 201 and 2012;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is no scientific basis to suggest that death penalty deters any crime; and

(d) if so, whether Government is considering any rethink on death penalty?