

***Statement-II******Measures taken by the Government to check crime against women and provide security and safety to women in the country***

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1. The Government of India has enacted the Criminal Amendment Act 2013 to provide for enhanced punishments for rape, aggravated rape, assault on women, intent to outrage her modesty and sexual harassment. New offences have been defined and punishment has been prescribed for non-treatment of victims by any hospital, acid attack, attempt of acid attack, use of force to disrobe women, voyeurism, stalking, trafficking of person and repeat offences. It has specifically been mentioned that "if the information is given by the woman against whom an offence is alleged to have been committed or attempted, then such information shall be recorded, by a Women Police officer or any woman officer (Section 154 and 161 of Cr. Procedure Act, 1973).
  2. Ministry of Home Affairs has issued an Advisory on Crime against Women on 4.9.2009, whereby the States/UTs were requested to exhibit prominently helpline numbers of the crime against women cells in hospital/schools/colleges premises and in other suitable places and set up exclusive 'Crime Against Women and Children' desk in each police station and the Special Women Police Cell in the police stations and all women police thana as needed.
  3. Ministry of Home Affairs has issued another Advisory on 22nd April 2013 whereby the States/UTs were requested to raise the women representation in Police to 33%.
  4. Ministry of Home Affairs has issued an Advisory on Registration of FIR irrespective of territorial jurisdiction and Zero FIR was issued on 10.05.2013 to all States/UTs.
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**Asylum plea of Pakistani Hindus who fled Pakistan**

322. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the present status of asylum plea of Pakistani Hindus who have fled Pakistan and are presently living in India in various camps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU) : Some Pakistani nationals belonging to minority communities in Pakistan including Hindus, who came to India on valid visas, have not gone back to Pakistan on the grounds of religious persecution in Pakistan. Representations have been received requesting for allowing extension of visas of such Pakistani nationals and also for permitting them to apply for Long Term Visa (LTV). This Ministry had issued instructions on 7th March, 2012 to all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to consider requests of such Pakistan nationals belonging to minority communities in Pakistan, in the light of the

general guidelines issued by the Government for dealing with cases of foreign nationals in India, who claim to be refugees, for grant of Long Term Visa (LTV). Grant of LTV to such Pakistani nationals is continuous process. Government has so far approved grant of LTV in respect of 43 such Pakistani nationals (25 in Rajasthan, 5 in Uttar Pradesh and 13 in Uttarakhan). Further, Government of NCT of Delhi has referred a proposal for grant of LTV to 386 such Pakistani nationals.

#### **Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh**

323. SHRI C.M. RAMESH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh after its bifurcation has been given the Special Category Status;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the benefits the State will get on getting the Special Category Status;
- (d) how it will help to attract more industries and increase the economic activity;
- (e) whether it is a fact that there have been demands to increase the period of special status to ten years;
- (f) if so, the decision taken on the above demand; and
- (g) if no decision has been taken on (e) above, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU) : (a) and (b) Special Category Status for plan assistance has been granted in the past by the National Development Council (NDC). The issue of Special Category Status is under consideration in Planning Commission.

(c) Special Category States get the following benefits in respect of plan assistance:

- (i) Special Category Status to a State provides for distribution of 56.25% of Normal Central Assistance (presently among 11 special category states) compared to 43.75% which is distributed among 18 General Category States.
- (ii) Special Category States receive Special Plan Assistance (for projects) (90% grant) and Special Central Assistance grants (untied) (100% grant).
- (iii) The assistance for Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) flows to Special category States as 90 per cent grant whereas for General Category States, it flows as back-to-back loans.
- (iv) The state share in Centrally Sponsored Schemes is usually lower for Special Category States, especially the States of North Eastern region & Sikkim, as compared to General Category States.