

of 9433 cases, 14405 cases and 20874 cases were reported in the mega cities under crime against children during the year 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively.

(b) and(c) The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 is a special law to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation. The Act along with Rules has come into effect from 14th November, 2012. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (JJ Act) as amended in 2006 is the primary law for children in need of care and protection and in conflict with law. In order to implement the JJ Act, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely The Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) is being implemented with the aim to create a safety net of dedicated structures, services and personnel for protection of children in need of care and protection. The objective is to contribute to improvement in the well being of children in difficult circumstances as well reduction of vulnerabilities to situations and actions that lead to abuse, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children from their families etc.

Women self help groups in Kerala

2877. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state whether any proposal is there under the consideration of the Government to start women self help groups like 'Kudumbasree' in Kerala, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): RMK a micro-finance organisation under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, sanctions micro-loans to poor women all over the country including Kerala through NGOs/Self Help Groups. All eligible NGOs including Kudumbashree in Kerala can apply to RMK for micro-loans for lending to poor women.

Rape crisis centre in country

2878. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of rape crisis centres presently operational in the country and the State-wise breakup thereof;

(b) the total expenditure allocated towards and incurred in the setting up of each of these centres;

(c) whether there is a trained psychiatrist/psychologist and/or mental health professional deputed at each of these centres; and

(d) if not, the total number of vacancies for such posts and the measures being taken by Government to fill these vacant positions?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) and (b) The scheme for One Stop Centre for Women was approved *i.e.* on 4th March, 2015 with total project cost of Rs. 18.58 crore (for 2 years) for implementation through States/UTs from 1st April 2015. Till date only 1 One Stop Centre has been set up at Raipur, Chhattisgarh on 16th July, 2015 for which an amount of ₹ 38.22 Lakh was released to Government of Chattisgarh.

(c) and (d) The Centre will be integrated with a Women Helpline as well as all existing helplines and facilitate medical aid, police assistance, legal counselling/court case management, psycho-social counselling, temporary shelter to women affected by violence. The scheme envisaged a skilled counsellor for psycho-social counselling services on call basis.

Internal committee on sexual harassment

2879. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) is it true that many Government offices and 90 per cent of private offices/companies do not have internal committees to deal with sexual harassment cases at workplace, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether any consultations have been held with Ministry of Corporate Affairs and also DoPT with regard to setting up of internal committees, if so, the outcome of the same; and

(c) what efforts her Ministry is making to ensure that committees are constituted in Government and private sector?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) The Section 23 of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 casts the responsibility on the appropriate Government to monitor the implementation of this Act and maintain data on the number of cases filed and disposed of.

(b) No Sir. However, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs for the constitution of Internal