

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's view thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) and (b) While commenting on Draft National Policy for Women, 2016, the National Commission for Women has made certain recommendations on marital rape. The Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that the Law Commission of India, while making its 172nd Report on "Review of Rape Laws" in March, 2000 did not recommended criminalization of marital rape. However, the Justice J.S Verma Committee, while giving its Report on "Amendments to Criminal Laws" in January 2013, recommended that law ought to be amended to delete the marital rape exception. The Department - Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs presented its 167th Report on their Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2012 in the Rajya Sabha on 1st March, 2013. While giving its report the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs, inter alia, considered both the 172nd Report on Review of Rape Laws given by the Law Commission of India, and the Report of the Justice J.S. Verma Committee. The Committee deliberated the amendments to section 375 of IPC including the issue of marital rape and observed that if the marital rape is brought under the law, the entire family system will be under great stress and the Committee may perhaps be doing more injustice.

The Ministry of Home has requested the Law Commission to deliberate upon the subject of marital rape during the course of its comprehensive review of Criminal Justice System.

National policy for safety of women

2140. SHRI RIPUN BORA:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are reports of under utilisation of the Nirbhaya Fund by some States and nearly ₹2000 crore fund remains unutilised, if so, the State-wise details for the last three years, year-wise thereof;

(b) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to formulate a national policy for proper rehabilitation, support and safety of women in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government plans to expand the scope of the fund allocation, for its optimum utilization and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) Ministry of Finance, Government of India had set up a dedicated fund called Nirbhaya Fund for implementation of initiatives aimed at enhancing the safety and security for women in the country. Set up in 2013, the corpus transferred to the Public Account for the Nirbhaya fund till 2015-16 is ₹ 2000 Crore.

(b) and (c) One Stop Centres and Women Helpline(181) are being set up to facilitate women to access justice. Swadhar Greh and Ujjawala Schemes are being administered by Ministry of Women and Child Development for relief and rehabilitation of women in difficult circumstances, including the victims of rape.

(d) Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs has issued guidelines for simplified procedure for making optimal utilisation of Funds from the Nirbhaya Fund. Ministry of Women and Child Development in consultation with the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs has also issued guidelines for proposals from Central Government Ministries/Departments, States/UTs to be funded under Nirbhaya Fund.

Infant Mortality Rate

2141 SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's Infant mortality rate is worse than its neighbouring countries like Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh; and