

on lottery activities and if so, whether there is any law in place to regulate their activities;

(b) whether there is any machinery to monitor the activities of the lottery-organising agencies so as to prevent the abuse of law and encouragement to gambling under the garb of lottery activities;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to amend the existing law in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) The State Governments may organize, conduct or promote lotteries only on conditions stipulated in Section 4 of the Lotteries (Regulation) Act, 1998. The said Act was enacted to regulate the lotteries.

(b) and (c) The State Governments monitor the activities of the lottery organizing agencies as per provisions of the Lotteries (Regulation) Act, 1998 and the relevant Rules framed by the respective State Governments.

(d) No, Sir.

Atrocities on women

830. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that atrocities on women are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the details of cases reported during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to stop such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) As per statistics compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, the incidence of crimes committed against women in the country showed an increase in 2002 (147678 cases) in comparison to 2001 (143795 cases). However, in 2003, the incidence of crimes committed against women went down to 132720 cases as per provisional figures for the year 2003 available so far. The details of State/UT-wise incidence of crimes committed against women during 2001-2003 are given in the Annexure. [See Appendix 202, Annexure No. 2]

(c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Government of India has been advising the State Governments, from time to time, to give more focused attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system and take such measures as are necessary for the prevention of crime against women and other vulnerable sections of society. In a recent advisory sent to the State Governments, they have been requested to take the following measures to check crime against women.:

- (i) Sensitize police officials charged with the responsibility of protecting women,
- (ii) Vigorously enforce existing legislation relating to dowry violence,
- (iii) Set up women police cells in Police Stations and exclusive women Police Stations,
- (iv) Provide institutional support to the victims of violence,
- (v) provide counseling to victims of rape,
- (vi) Take measures to eliminate trafficking in women,
- (vii) Enforce wider recruitment of women Police officers, and
- (viii) Train police personnel in special laws dealing with atrocities against women.

Shortage of Personnel at Bangalore International Airport

831. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that there is a shortage of personnel at Immigration Wing of Bangalore International Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether passport reading machine and a device to check visa stickers have been provided; and

(d) if not, when will they be provided to avoid fake passports and visas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) yes, Sir. As per the report