

(b) whether it is also a fact that Haryana and Madhya Pradesh have provided/are providing for capital punishment for rape of girls upto the age of twelve years;

(c) whether some organisations have requested Government to enact a law providing therein for capital punishment for rape of girls up to the age of twelve years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) As per the information provided by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the details of cases of rape during 2014-2016 are as under:—

Subject	2014	2015	2016
Rape with Girls/women	37,413	34,651	38,947
Rape with Girls below 12 years	2,038	1,602	2,116

(b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has a proposal to make rape and gang rape of minor girls under the age of 12 years, an offence punishable with death penalty or rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than fourteen years (for rape)/twenty years (gang rape), but which may extend to imprisonment for life which shall mean imprisonment for the remainder of that person's natural life. The Government of Haryana is also processing a similar proposal.

(c) to (e) Amendments in law relating to the criminal justice system are a continuous and ongoing process.

Schemes to encourage small scale industries

†*349. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has formulated several programmes to encourage small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the works for which Government provides assistance in these small scale industries?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises implements various schemes and programmes for promotion and development of small enterprises in the country. These include the schemes/programmes such as A Scheme for Promoting Innovation, Rural Industry and Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE), Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS), National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP), Micro and Small Enterprises – Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP), Marketing Development Assistance (MDA), Skill Development Programmes, International Cooperation Scheme, etc.

These schemes support small enterprises on development of skills and entrepreneurship, access to finance, infrastructure, technology, quality certification and access to markets.

Tariffs on steel imports by the US

*350. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the US Department of Commerce has recommended to impose steep tariffs on steel imports from India and a few other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the total quantity of steel that India exported to the US during last three years and the current year and total foreign exchange earned from it as a result thereof; and

(d) what steps Government has taken so far to convince the US authorities that steel manufactured in India and exported to the US is of a good and reliable quality and safe to use?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. United States Department of Commerce (USDOC), Bureau of Industry and Security, Office of Technology Evaluation in its Report dated 11-01-2018 titled “The Effect of Imports of Steel on the National Security” under Section 232 of the U.S. Trade Expansion Act, 1962 recommended alternative measures, which include levy of Global Tariff and Global Quota and Tariffs on a sub-set of 12 countries, including India.

On 8 March, 2018, the U.S. President issued a Presidential Proclamation imposing