

Protectees is not maintained centrally. However, the Central Government too provides security cover on the basis of assessment of threat to individuals. List of Protectees in the Central list is not disclosed due to security reasons.

(b) The security provided to the individuals, including politicians is subject to periodic review. Thus the number of protected persons varies from time to time. However, as on date, around 300 protectees, including politicians in the Central list are being provided security by the State Police/Central Armed Police Force personnel.

**Recruitment of women police personnel**

3735. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any drive to recruit women police personnel at the lower and upper subordinate level to overcome the acute shortage of women police officers in the rural and the interior areas;

(b) whether Government would consider increasing the sports quota for tribal women in the police for recruiting women police personnel for deployment in the tribal areas to overcome the acute shortage; and

(c) if so, by when would Government take steps to fill such vacancies of immediate nature?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) As 'Police' is a State subject falling in List-II of seventh schedule of the Constitution of India, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UTs to increase women personnel in police forces, including through sports quota for tribal women in police recruitment.

However, the Central Government advises the States/UTs from time to time in this regard. The Ministry of Home Affairs has issued advisories dated 22.4.2013 and 21.5.2014 to all the State Governments to increase the representation of women to 33% of the total strength of Police personnel of respective States. All the State Governments have also been requested to create additional posts of women Constables/Sub-Inspectors by converting the vacant posts of male constables. The aim is that each police station should have at least 3 women Sub-Inspectors and 10 women police Constables, so that a women help desk is manned round the clock.