

**Action plan for awareness against Sexual offences
under POCSO in NER**

3005. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cases registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 during the last three years in North Eastern Region(NER);

(b) whether Government has taken note of sharp increase in cases of sexual offences against the children and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has initiated any action plan for establishment of special courts for timely disposal of cases registered under POCSO and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government proposes to launch awareness programmes for shaping public opinion against such offences and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The data indicating the number of cases registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 during the last three years in North Eastern Region (NER) is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) As per the information provided by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a total of 34,449, 34,505 and 36,022 cases were registered under POCSO Act, 2012 during the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively, accounting for increase of 0.2% in 2015 over 2014 and 4.4% in 2016 over 2015. The Government had introduced the POCSO Act 2012, as a special law to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation.

(c) A provision already exists under Section 28 of the POCSO Act, 2012 to designate Special Court for each district for speedy trial to try the offences.

(d) Section 43 of the POCSO Act, 2012 provides that the Central Government and every State Government shall take all measures to give wide publicity to the provisions of the Act. In accordance with this, the Government has taken various steps from time to time to create awareness of the provisions of the POCSO Act through electronic and print media, consultations, workshops and training programmes with stakeholders concerned. Further, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR) are also mandated to monitor the implementation of the POCSO Act, 2012.

Statement

Details of cases registered under protection of children from sexual offences under POCSO act during the last three years in NE Region

Sl. No.	State	2014	2015	2016
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	56	54	59
2.	Assam	506	819	821
3.	Manipur	50	43	43
4.	Meghalaya	118	167	151
5.	Mizoram	165	169	167
6.	Nagaland	17	15	27
7.	Sikkim	70	55	92
8.	Tripura	245	133	156

Source: Crime in India*

*NCRB Data

Social and economic support to women in distress

†3006. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated to provide medical care, food, shelter, clothing to the women living in distress due to not getting social and economic support; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Ministry implements the Swadhar Greh Scheme with effect from 01.01.2016 by merging two previous schemes viz. 'Swadhar' and 'Short Stay Homes' which covers the entire country. The Swadhar Greh Scheme targets women living in difficult circumstances without social and economic support like deserted women and women survivors of natural disaster who have been rendered homeless, trafficked women/girls, women victims of terrorist violence, mentally challenged women/girls who are without support and women with HIV/AIDS deserted by family. These women are in need of institutional support for rehabilitation so that they could lead their life with dignity. The Scheme envisages providing shelter, food, clothing and health services as well as economic and social security for them along with facilitating their emotional and economic rehabilitation into the society.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.