

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2988
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2022**

**MEDICAL FACILITIES TO SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED
VIOLENCE (SGBV) IN INDIA**

**2988: SHRI BINOY VISWAM:
DR. AMEE YAJNIK:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that despite acute and chronic health consequences, less than 1 per cent of survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) seek medical care;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) steps Government is planning to take to increase access to medical care for survivors of SGBV;
- (d) State-wise status of implementation of Health Ministry's Guidelines and Protocols on Medico Legal Care for Survivors of Sexual Violence (2014);
- (e) whether the Ministry has conducted any study on the impact of mandatory reporting on survivors accessing health services, if so, details thereof; and
- (f) total budgetary allocation to address this problem?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) & (b): As per the Statistics provided in National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-21), 1.5 percent of young women aged between 18-29 years have experienced sexual violence by age of 18 years. But data of survivors of sexual and gender Based Violence who seek medical care is not maintained.

(c), (e) & (f): As informed by the Ministry of Women & Child Development, the Central Government gives highest priority to ensuring safety and security of women and children and has made

various legislative and schematic interventions in this regard as enacted by the Indian Parliament which addresses the issue of crime against women and children.

The schemes/ projects implemented by Central Government for safety and security of women and children include One Stop Centres (OSCs), Universalisation of Women Helplines (WHL), Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP), Swadhar Greh, Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) which is a pan-India single number (112)/ mobile app based system for emergencies; a cybercrime reporting portal to report obscene content; Safe City Projects in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai) including infrastructure, technology adoption and capacity building in community through awareness programmes, establishment of State of Art DNA Laboratory at CFSL, Chandigarh; assistance to 24 States/ UTs to strengthen Forensic Science Laboratories; setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) Courts for speedy disposal of cases of rape and cases under POCSO Act; setting up/ strengthening of Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) in all districts of the country; setting up/ strengthening of Women Help Desks (WHDs) at Police Stations, Integrated Child Protection Scheme (JCRS), 24x7Childline - 1098 etc. The Government has also put in place Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences, an online analytic tool for tracking and monitoring of investigation. A National Database of Sexual Offenders (NDSO) has also been created.

Under Nirbhaya Fund, Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has also taken several initiatives, which includes training and skill development programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers, distribution of Sexual Assault Evidence Collection (SAEC) Kits to States/ UTs. BPR&D has also prepared Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for 'Women Help Desk at Police Stations' to ensure smooth functioning of Women Help Desks by focusing on four critical components viz. infrastructure, training, human resource development and response mechanism. A book titled 'Women's Safety and Security- a Handbook for First Responders and Investigators in the Police' has also been prepared for the purpose of prevention and investigation of crime against women with specific reference to the crime of sexual assault, which includes investigation, victim compensation and rehabilitation.

Ministry of Women and Child Development has engaged the services of National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) for providing basic and advanced training under the project named 'Stree Manoraksha' to the staff of One Stop Centres (OSCs) across the country on handling psycho-social and mental health care needs to support the women facing violence and women in distress.

The Ministry of Women & Child Development does awareness exercise for safety and security of women and children. Further, the Government, through institutions like the National Commission for Women (NCW), National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and their counterparts in States have been spreading awareness through seminars, workshops, audio-visual, print and electronic media etc. to sensitize the people about the safety and security of women and children and also about various provisions of the legislation etc.

(d): Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has written to State and UT in 2014 for directing all Hospitals in the States/UTs for adoption of the “Guidelines and Examination Proforma for Medico legal cases of victims of Sexual Violence”. .
