

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2626**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18TH DECEMBER, 2024/ AGRAHAYANA 27,
1946 (SAKA)**

CRIMES AGAINST STS

2626 SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of recent increase in attacks against Scheduled Tribes (STs), if so, the details thereof;

(b) details of incidents of attacks against STs during the last five years, year-wise; and

(c) steps taken by Government to address concerns of ST communities?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR)**

(a) & (b): National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles statistical data on crimes as reported to it by the States/UTs and publishes the same in its annual publication "Crime in India". The latest published report pertains to the year 2022. The details of Crime Head-wise Cases Registered under crime/atrocities against Scheduled Tribes during the years 2018-2022, are given in the Annexure.

(c): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State List subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility of maintaining law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including Scheduled Tribes (STs), rests with the respective State Governments/UT Administrations, who are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. However, the Government of India is committed to ensure protection of members of Scheduled Tribes throughout the country and supports & supplements the efforts of the State Governments/UT Administrations to effectively tackle crime against STs. Major steps taken by the Government of India in this regard are as follows :-

To make the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989[POA Act] more effective and to provide justice and enhanced redressal to injustice suffered by the atrocity victims, this Act has been amended in the year 2015. The amendment includes new offences, expands the scope of presumptions, institutional strengthening, which inter-alia includes establishment of Exclusive Special Courts and specification of Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors to exclusively try offences under the POA Act to enable expeditious disposal of cases, power of

Special Courts and Exclusive Special Courts to take direct cognizance of offences. Further, Section 18 of the POA Act was amended through the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2018 and enforced with effect from 20.08.2018. Consequently, conduct of a preliminary enquiry before registration of an FIR or to seek approval of any authority prior to arrest of an accused is no longer required.

Further, a National Helpline against Atrocities (NHAA), having toll free number 14566 has been established to facilitate the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with the objective of their grievance redressal and to generate awareness about the provisions and processes under the Law. A collaboration has also been made with the National Legal Services Authority for awareness generation of these Acts, Rules and centrally sponsored scheme in force.

In addition, Ministry of Home Affairs has been advising the State Governments/ UT Administrations from time to time to give focused attention to effective administration of the criminal justice system with emphasis on prevention and control of crimes against

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and to implement the provisions of the POA Act and Rules in letter and spirit. These advisories are available at the website of this Ministry www.mha.gov.in.

Ministry of Home Affairs has also advised the States and UTs to identify the atrocity-prone areas for taking preventive measures to save life and property of the members of the SC and ST communities and providing adequate number of police personnel and strengthening infrastructure in the Police Stations in such vulnerable areas.

Further, Bureau of Police Research & Development conducts training, courses and webinars from time to time for police personnel for effective implementation of the POA Act, 1989.

Further, the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment runs a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the effective implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the POA Act, 1989, under which Central

Assistance is provided to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, which includes :

(i) Functioning and strengthening of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection cell and Special Police Stations.

(ii) Setting up and functioning of exclusive Special Courts.

(iii) Relief and Rehabilitation of atrocity victims.

(iv) Incentive for inter-caste marriages, where one of the spouse is a member of a Scheduled Caste.

(v) Awareness generation.

Crime Head-wise Cases Registered under Crime/Atrocities against Scheduled Tribes during 2018-2022

Sl.No.	Crime Head	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1A	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act	6178	7135	7891	8475	9735
1A.1	Murder	168	180	172	199	217
1A.2	Attempt to Commit Murder	131	141	144	148	258
1A.3	Simple Hurt	1429	1674	2247	2358	2826
1A.4	Grievous Hurt	104	125	125	114	155
1A.5	Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty	857	886	885	881	1022
1A.6	Insult to the Modesty of Women	18	23	24	29	64
1A.7	Kidnapping and Abduction	116	141	148	134	140
1A.8	Rape	1008	1083	1137	1324	1347
1A.9	Attempt to Commit Rape	17	19	25	25	16
1A.10	Riots	189	170	197	145	163
1A.11	Robbery	6	11	16	10	21
1A.12	Dacoity	14	6	2	5	8
1A.13	Arson	11	27	12	14	16
1A.14	Criminal Intimidation	484	412	409	817	567
1A.15	Other IPC crimes	1626	2237	2348	2272	2915
1B	SC / ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act only	347	432	379	324	329
1B.1	Intentionally Insult or Intimidate with Intent to Humiliate	117	129	118	91	130
1B.2	Occupy/Disposes Land Belongs to SCs/STs	18	27	33	37	41
1B.3	Prevent or deny or obstruct usage of public place/passage	0	1	1	1	1
1B.4	Force to leave place of Residence/Social Boycott	19	34	28	24	19
1B.5	Other Offences	193	241	199	171	138
1	Total of SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act	6525	7567	8270	8799	10064
2	Protection of Civil Rights Act	3	3	2	3	0
3	Crime/Atrocities against STs	6528	7570	8272	8802	10064

Source: Crime in India
