

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UN-STARRED QUESTION NO.635**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.09.2020

**INCREASE IN CHILD MARRIAGE CASES DURING THE LOCKDOWN**

635. DR. AMAR PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the rising number of child marriage cases during the lockdown period;
- (b) whether any survey has been conducted to assess the ground reality of increasing child marriages during the lockdown;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government is contemplating to launch new/special schemes to tackle the rising menace of child marriage;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) whether Government has any proposal to engage NGO's and other private organizations working in this direction?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c) : As per the information received from National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), there is no data to indicate rising number of child marriage cases during the lockdown period.

(d) to (e) : The Government has enacted the 'Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA), 2006'. The Government also undertakes awareness drives, media campaigns and outreach programmes and issues advisories to the States/ UTs from time to time to highlight evil effects of this practice. Further, the Ministry of Women and Child Development implements the schemes of 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)' in which creation of awareness amongst women on matters pertaining to gender equality and discouraging of child marriage is an important focus area. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) also undertakes awareness programmes and consultations with stakeholders from time to time in this regard.

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