GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 612 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2017

SUICIDES BY YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES

612. SHRI RIPUN BORA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to social pressure a number of suicides by the young married couples belonging to different castes are being reported in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government to prevent suicides of the intercaste couple; and
- (c) the action proposed by Government to safeguard the inter-caste marriage relationships?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

(a) to (c) The Ministry does not maintain data regarding suicides by couples who belong to different castes. However, the Ministry under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme provides Central assistance to States/Union Territories, inter-alia, to monetarily incentivise such intercaste marriages where one of the spouses is a member of a Scheduled Caste. As regards safeguarding and protecting inter-caste married persons, since 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule (List-II) to the Constitution of India, the concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administrations can take appropriate action in the light of extant Constitutional provisions, laws and executive instruments.