

Bill to provide death to child rape convicts passed

New Delhi: Parliament passed a stringent legislation prescribing death penalty to those convicted of raping girls below the age of 12 years and making the law against such sexual offences harsher.

The Bill replaces the Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance promulgated on April 21, following an outcry over the rape and murder of a minor girl in Kathua in Jammu and Kashmir and the rape of another woman at Unnao in Uttar Pradesh.

The Criminal Law

ACTION BY STATES

Four states had already brought a law in their respective assemblies for capital punishment for those convicted of raping girls under the age of 12.

(Amendment) Bill 2018, which was passed in the Lok Sabha on July 30, was approved by a voice vote in the Upper House.

MoS for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju assured that the

concerns and issues raised by the members would be looked into by the government, even as he did not agree with the demand of several MPs to send the bill to a Select Committee for scrutiny.

Terming the Bill as one of national importance, Rijiju said the law is aimed at providing safety to minor girls as he highlighted various aspects of the measure.

“There are consequential effects on prevention of atrocities against children,” the minister said. —PTI



The nation has seen an outcry over the recent rape cases with protesters demanding capital punishment for the rapists —FILE PHOTO