

**COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2022-2023)**

85

(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

EIGHTY-FIFTH REPORT

**REVIEW OF PENDING ASSURANCES PERTAINING TO THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 27/07/, 2023



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

July, 2023/ Sravana 1945 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2022 - 2023)**

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL - Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
3. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
4. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
5. Shri Kaushlendra Kumar
6. Shri Khagen Murmu
7. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
8. Shri Santosh Pandey
9. Shri M.K. Raghavan
10. Prof. Sougata Ray
11. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu
12. Shri Indra Hang Subba
13. Smt. Supriya Sadanand Sule
14. Vacant
15. Vacant

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Shri J.M. Baisakh | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Dr. Sagarika Dash | - | Director |
| 3. Shri M.C. Gupta | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. Smt. Vineeta Sachdeva | - | Under Secretary |

* The Committee has been constituted w.e.f. 09 October, 2022 *vide* Para No. 5363 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 09 November, 2022

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Government Assurances (2022-2023), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Eighty-Fifth Report (17th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2022-2023) at their sitting held on 16th January, 2023 took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) regarding pending Assurances.
3. At their sitting held on 25th July, 2023, the Committee on Government Assurances (2022-2023) considered and adopted this Report.
4. The Minutes of the aforesaid sittings of the Committee form part of the Report.
5. For facility of reference and convenience, the Observations and Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the Report.

NEW DELHI;
25 July, 2023
03 Sravana, 1945 (Saka)

RAJENDRA AGRAWAL,
CHAIRPERSON,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

REPORT

I. Introductory

The Committee on Government Assurances scrutinize the Assurances, promises, undertakings, etc., given by the Ministers from time to time on the floor of the House and report the extent to which such Assurances, promises and undertakings have been implemented. Once an Assurance has been given on the floor of the House, the same is required to be implemented within a period of three months. The Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are under obligation to seek extension of time required beyond the prescribed period for fulfilment of the Assurance. Where a Ministry/Department is unable to implement an Assurance, that Ministry/Department is bound to request the Committee for dropping it. The Committee consider such requests and approve dropping, in case, they are convinced that grounds cited are justified. The Committee also examine whether the implementation of Assurances has taken place within the minimum time necessary for the purpose and the extent to which the Assurances have been implemented.

2. The Extracts from the Manual of Parliamentary Procedures in the Government of India, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs laying guidelines on the definition of an Assurance, the time limit for its fulfilment, dropping/deletion and extension; the procedure for fulfilment, etc., besides maintenance of Register of Assurances and periodical reviews to minimize delays in implementation of the Assurances are reproduced at Appendix-I.

3. The Committee on Government Assurances (2009-2010) took a policy decision to call the representatives of various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in a phased manner, to review the pending Assurances, examine the reasons for pendency and analyze operation of the system prescribed in the Ministries/Departments for dealing with Assurances. The Committee also decided to consider the quality of Assurances implemented by the Government.

4. The Committee on Government Assurances (2014-2015) decided to follow the well established and time tested procedure of calling the representatives of the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in a phased manner and review the pending Assurances. The Committee took a step further and decided to call the representatives of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs also as all the Assurances are implemented through it.

5. In pursuance of the *ibid* decision, the Committee on Government Assurances (2022-2023) called the representatives of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to render clarifications with regard to delay in implementation of the pending Assurances pertaining to the Legislative Department at their sitting held on 16th January, 2023. The Committee examined in detail the following 26 Assurances (Appendices – II to XXVII):

Table 1

Sl.No.	SQ/USQ No. dated	Subject
1.	General Discussion dated 21.08.2010	Personnel Law (Amendment) Bill (Appendix-II)
2.	USQ No. 3922 dated 21.03.2013	Civil Procedure Code (Appendix-III)
3.	USQ No. 2075 dated 18.12.2013	Religious Trusts in States (Appendix-IV)
4.	USQ No. 4164 dated 19.02.2014	Law of Torts (Appendix-V)
5.	USQ No. 4176 dated 18.12.2014	Amendments in Laws dealing with Elections (Appendix-VI)
6.	USQ No. 479 dated 26.02.2015	Property Succession Laws for Christians (Appendix-VII)
7.	USQ No. 2824 dated 06.08.2015	Legislation against Honour Killing (Appendix-VIII)
8.	USQ No. 1988 dated 10.12.2015	Model Code of Conduct (Appendix-IX)
9.	USQ No. 711 dated 21.07.2016	Modern Mode of Communication (Appendix-X)
10.	USQ No. 85 dated 16.11.2016	Electoral Reforms (Appendix-XI)
11.	USQ No. 171 dated 16.11.2016	Simultaneous Parliament and Assembly Elections (Appendix-XII)
12.	USQ No. 980 dated 08.02.2017	Funding of Political Parties (Appendix-XIII)
13.	USQ No. 3334 dated 22.03.2017	Simultaneous Election of Lok Sabha and State Assemblies (Appendix-XIV)
14.	USQ No. 4600 dated 29.03.2017	Violation of Election Regulation (Appendix-XV)

15.	USQ No. 1809 dated 26.07.2017	Convictions in Scams (Appendix-XVI)
16.	USQ No. 2950 dated 02.08.2017	Simultaneous Elections (Appendix-XVII)
17.	USQ No. 760 dated 07.02.2018	Criminals Contesting Elections (Appendix-XVIII)
18.	USQ No. 1883 dated 07.03.2018	Simultaneous Elections (Appendix-XIX)
19.	USQ No. 2526 dated 01.08.2018	Proposal for Simultaneous Elections (Appendix-XX)
20.	USQ No. 353 dated 12.12.2018	Ban on Criminals contesting Elections (Appendix-XXI)
21.	USQ No. 827 dated 26.06.2019	Discrepancy in EVM and VVPAT (Appendix-XXII)
22.	USQ No. 839 dated 26.06.2019	Electoral Reforms (Appendix-XXIII)
23.	USQ No. 1816 dated 03.07.2019	Capping on Party's Expenditure (Appendix-XXIV)
24.	USQ No. 2727 dated 10.07.2019	Committee on One Nation, One Election (Appendix-XXV)
25.	USQ No. 681 dated 20.11.2019	One Nation One Nation (Appendix-XXVI)
26.	USQ No. 2753 dated 04.12.2019	Amendment to Representation of People Act. (Appendix-XXVII)

6. The Committee noted that 39 Assurances are pending with the Legislative Department of the Ministry of Law and Justice. Out of these 39 Assurances, 04 Assurances pertained to the 15th Lok Sabha, 17 Assurances to the 16th Lok Sabha and 18 Assurances to the 17th Lok Sabha. Pointing out long pendency of Assurances, the Committee took 26 out of 39 Assurances for oral evidence. The Committee enquired about the system in place in the Ministry to monitor the processes for implementation of Assurances. In reply, the Secretary, Legislative Department briefed the Committee as under:

"We take Assurances seriously because they are promises made by our Honorable Ministers to the Parliament. From time to time, we try our best to fulfill the Assurances, but there are many Assurances for which we have to depend on the inputs of others such as those related to the concurrent list. We have to get comments from the State Governments also. The comments of those who are related to the Election Commission have to be sought. That's why there is delay in fulfilling the Assurances. We keep taking extension from you from time to time. It is not that we are not serious about these Assurances. Our Ministers take every Assurance very seriously. He has given us instructions to fulfill the Assurances as soon as possible. He has told us to inform him about matters where no information is coming from the concerned authority even after writing letter. He will pursue the subject matter so that the Assurance can be fulfilled. We assure you that we will take Assurances seriously in future as well and will try to fulfill the Assurances."

7. When the Committee specifically desired to know as to the frequency of the meetings held for review of pending Assurances, the Secretary, Legislative Department stated as under:—

"Our Ministers review every month as to how many Assurances are pending and the reasons for their pendency. We make them apprise of the reasons for which these are pending. We have fulfilled most of the Assurances. We have sent their Implementation Report. The Assurances for which no time limit can be fixed are pending."

8. Subsequently, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs laid Implementation Reports in respect of 08 Assurances mentioned at Sl.No. 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15 and 26 on 08.02.2023 on the floor of the House. Further, the Committee at their sitting held on 16.01.2023 acceded to the request of the Legislative Department to drop 13 Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 and 25 in the above list.

Observations/Recommendations

9. **The Committee note that out of 26 pending Assurances of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) taken up during the oral evidence, 08 Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15 and 26 have since been implemented on 08.02.2023 after delays ranging from more than three years to more than nine years. Further, the Committee at their sitting held on 16.01.2023 acceded to the request of the Legislative Department to drop thirteen Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 and 25 in the above list. Five Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5 and 21 are yet to be fulfilled despite delays ranging from four to twelve years. The inordinate delay in fulfillment of the Assurances is indicative of inadequate follow up action on the part of the Ministry. The review of the pending Assurances also reveals that the existing mechanism put in place by the Ministry for fulfilling the Assurances especially those involving other Ministries/Departments and stakeholders is far from effective.**

The Committee feel that Assurances are solemn Parliamentary obligations and the purpose, utility and relevance of Assurances are lost if there is an inordinate delay in their implementation. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the existing mechanism/system in the Ministry should be overhauled and streamlined with a view to avoid delay in fulfillment of Assurances particularly the long pending Assurances. The Committee also observe that lack of coordination between the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, the nodal Ministry, is one of the major reasons behind delay in the fulfillment of certain Assurances. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Legislative Department should adopt a proactive approach and enhance the level of coordination with other Ministries/Departments concerned including the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and stakeholders for early/timely implementation of all the pending Assurances as well as the Assurances to be made in future. The Committee also urge upon the Ministry to furnish the Minutes of the review meetings held in the Ministry from time to time for monitoring the Assurances as it will help the Committee in measuring the progress of the Legislative Department with regard to implementation of Assurances. Further, it would act as an accountability tool and useful document for review of pending Assurances.

II. Review of the Pending Assurances of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department)

10. In the succeeding paragraphs, the Committee deal with some of the important pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) which have been critically examined/reviewed by them at their sitting held on 16.01.2023.

A. Amendment in Laws dealing with Elections

USQ No. 4176 dated 18.12.2014 regarding 'Amendment in Laws dealing with Elections' (Sl. No. 05).

11. In reply to USQ No. 4176 dated 18.12.2014 regarding 'Amendment in Laws Dealing with Elections', the following issues were raised:

"(a) Whether the Government proposes to amend the relevant laws to abolish the practice of contesting by a candidate from two constituencies simultaneously in elections in the country;

(b) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of by-elections held due to vacation of seats as result thereof in the just concluded General Election along with the expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) whether the Government proposes to make the candidate bear the expenditure so incurred in the by-election to the seat vacated by him; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the other steps taken/proposes to be taken to discourage such practice of contesting from two seats and save avoidable expenditure?

In reply, with regard to point (c), an Assurance was given that the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

12. The Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) in its Status Note furnished in January, 2023, apprised the position regarding implementation of the Assurance as under:-

"Bye-elections were held in two (02) Parliamentary constituencies after General Election to Lok Sabha, 2014 due to vacation of seats by contestants who won elections from two Parliamentary constituencies and subsequently resigned from one Parliamentary constituency. The details of expenditure incurred in this regard is not available as constituency wise expenditure is not maintained."

13. Giving an update on the implementation of the Assurance during oral evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) stated as under:-

"Earlier there was no limit and a candidate could contest from any number of places. But, after we amended the Representation of People Act, it was limited to two places. It was upheld by the Supreme Court in a case. But, the Law Commission is saying that the contest should be held from one place only. That's why their report is in our consideration. We are now considering it. So far by-elections have been held in two Parliamentary constituencies."

14. The Committee pointed out that the Assurance is specifically about bye-election and the reply given by the Ministry states that they do not keep account of the expenditure incurred in the by-elections, constituency-wise. The Committee emphasized that this contention of the Ministry can be accepted in the context of General Elections wherein many constituencies are involved but by-elections are usually held in one or two States. Hence, the Ministry should keep and furnish the details of expenditure incurred on those elections. To this, the Secretary, Legislative Department replied as under:

"The Election Commission has given us the same report. We don't keep anything. If the Committee says, we will get it from the State Government."

15. The Committee emphasized that if the Ministry find the reply from the Election Commission (EC) unconvincing then the Ministry can ask them again and if they feel that their answer is still not satisfactory then they can let the Election Commission know about the shortcomings of the reply. The Committee urged the Ministry to ask the Election Commission again and enquired as to the time by when they will do it. To this, the Secretary, Legislative Department replied that she will write a letter to EC immediately in this regard.

Observations/Recommendations

16. The Committee note that an Assurance given in reply to USQ No. 4176 dated 18.12.2014 regarding 'Amendment in Laws Dealing with Elections' is pending for implementation even after a lapse of more than 8 years despite the fact that the task involved is only compilation and furnishing of information regarding the number of By-elections held due to vacation of seats in the General Election of 2014 along with the expenditure incurred thereon. The Committee further note that By-Elections were held in two (02) Parliamentary constituencies after General Election to Lok Sabha 2014 due to vacation of seats by contestants who won elections from two Parliamentary Constituencies and subsequently resigned from one Parliamentary constituency but the details of expenditure incurred in this regard was not available as constituency-wise expenditure on By-elections was not maintained. The Committee were also informed that the Legislative Department does not keep any record of expenditure incurred on By-elections and that the Department have furnished the information based on the inputs received from the Election Commission. However, during oral evidence the Ministry claimed that if the Committee desires then they will get the information regarding expenditure incurred on By-elections from the States. The Committee observe that the Assurance is specifically about Bye-elections which are usually held in one or two States only unlike General Elections which are a gigantic exercise involving large number of constituencies and hence the contention of the Ministry cannot be accepted. Moreover, the Committee feel that maintaining record of expenditure incurred on By-elections held in Parliamentary Constituencies after General elections due to vacation of seats is significant to promote transparency and accountability in the electoral process. Citizens have the right to know how public funds are being spent especially in the context of elections. Maintaining records ensures that there is a clear account of the expenses incurred during the By-election. The Committee emphasize that maintaining a record of expenditure on By-elections provides valuable historical data that can be analyzed and studied. This data can be used to assess the cost and effectiveness of conducting By-elections, compare expenditure across different constituencies or time periods and identify trends and patterns. Such analysis can inform policymakers and election management bodies in making informed decisions regarding the electoral process. Further, a transparent and accountable electoral process builds public confidence and trust in the democratic system. When citizens have access to information about election expenses, it enhances their trust in the electoral process and ensures that their voice is being heard. It also helps in reducing suspicions or doubts regarding the fairness of elections besides providing basis for audit and verification. Election Commissions or relevant authorities can review the expenditure to ensure that it is in compliance with election laws and regulations. It also helps in preventing misuse of funds and detecting any irregularities or fraudulent activities. The Committee are, however, not satisfied with the pace of progress in the matter. The Committee feel that matter is of crucial national importance and needs to be pursued till

its logical conclusion. Further, once an Assurance is given it is incumbent upon the Ministry to fulfil it with proper planning and coordination with all the agencies involved. The Committee, therefore, desire that the matter be pursued with the Election Commission/State Governments concerned for keeping and furnishing the details of expenditure incurred on By-elections held due to vacation of seats in the General Elections to Lok Sabha 2014 and the Assurance be fulfilled at the earliest.

B. Discrepancy in EVM and VVPAT

USQ No. 827 dated 26.06.2019 regarding 'Discrepancy in EVM and VVPAT' (Sl. No. 21).

17. In reply to USQ No. 827 dated 26.06.2019 regarding 'Discrepancy in EVM and VVPAT', the following issues were raised:

"(a) Whether any discrepancy was found between the EVM and VVPAT machine counts in any of the constituencies recently in the recently concluded Lok Sabha elections; and

(b) If so, the details thereof, constituency-wise and the corrective measures taken in this regard?

In reply, with regard to point (a) & (b), an Assurance was given that the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

18. Giving an update on the efforts made by the Ministry to implement the Assurance, the Ministry in their Status Note furnished in January, 2023 stated that the requisite information was sought from the Election Commission of India (ECI) on 12.03.2020 and subsequent reminders dated 3rd September, 2020, 19th February, 2021, 7th October, 2021, 26th November, 2021 and 3rd June, 2022. The requisite information from the ECI is still awaited

19. During oral evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) explained the reasons for the delay in implementing the Assurance as under:-

"This is about discrepancy in EVM and VVPAT. We had called the Election Commission but today they are having discussions with some political parties and they have said that they cannot come today."

20. When the Committee desired that the Ministry should expedite the fulfilment of the Assurance, the Secretary, Legislative Department requested for two weeks time. The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry for grant of extension of time and gave one month extension to the Ministry to fulfil the Assurance.

Observations/Recommendations

21. The Committee note that finding discrepancies between Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) is

crucial aspect of ensuring the integrity and transparency of the electoral process. The Committee feel that need for identifying such issues is all the more necessary to ensure security and reliability of the voting process. EVMs and VVPATs are designed to provide an accurate reflection of voter's choice. Detecting discrepancies help ensure compliance with legal requirements. Election authorities, Government agencies and experts in the field should collaborate to establish robust procedures and protocols to address discrepancies effectively. The Committee however, regret to note that precious little has been done in this direction with the result that the Assurance given by the Government as early as June, 2019 still remains unfulfilled even after a lapse of more than four years although the task involved was simply to collect information from the Election Commission. The Committee are deeply concerned to note that the requisite information is still awaited from the Election Commission. The very fact that information has not been received explains the lack of concerted and coordinated approach of the Ministry on the issue. The Committee are not convinced with the manner in which the subject matter has been handled/treated by the Ministry due to which the implementation of the Assurance has been long overdue. Notwithstanding the explanations of the Ministry in the matter, the fact remains that the implementation of the Assurance on an important subject like the one in the instant case has been inordinately delayed. The Committee feel that there is an urgent necessity for identifying the discrepancies between the EVMs and VVPAT as it helps in maintaining trust in the electoral process by ensuring that votes are being recorded and counted correctly. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to accord utmost priority to the matter, make more serious efforts under a concrete action plan and find ways and means to better coordinate with the Election Commission and to get the requisite information with a view to expedite the implementation of Assurance without further delay.

III. Implementation Reports

22. As per the Statements of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Implementation Reports in respect of the following 8 Assurances have since been laid on the Table of the House on 08.02.2023:

Table 2

Sl.No	Sl.No. in the Table 1 (Para No. 4)	SQ/USQ No. and date	Date of Implementation
1.	Sl.No.3	USQ No. 2075 dated 18.12.2013 regarding 'Religious Trusts in States'	08.02.2023
2.	Sl. No. 6	USQ No. 479 dated 26.02.2015 regarding 'Property Succession Laws for Christians'	08.02.2023

3.	Sl. No. 7	USQ No. 2824 dated 06.08.2015 regarding 'Legislation against Honour Killing'	08.02.2023
4.	Sl.No.8	USQ No. 1988 dated 10.12.2015 regarding 'Model Code of Conduct'	08.02.2023
5.	Sl.No.9	USQ No. 711 dated 21.07.2016 regarding 'Modern Mode of Communication'	08.02.2023
6.	Sl.No.10	USQ No. 85 dated 16.11.2016 regarding 'Electoral Reforms'	08.02.2023
7.	Sl.No.15	USQ No. 1809 dated 26.07.2017 regarding 'Convictions in Scams'	08.02.2023
8.	Sl.No.26	USQ No. 2753 dated 04.12.2019 regarding 'Amendment to Representation of People Act'	08.02.2023

NEW DELHI;
25 July, 2023
03 Sravana, 1945 (Saka)

RAJENDRA AGRAWAL,
CHAIRPERSON,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

Extracts from the Manual of Parliamentary Procedures
in the Government of India, Ministry of Parliamentary
Affairs, New Delhi

Chapter 8

Assurances

8.1 During the course of reply given to a question or a discussion, if a Minister gives an undertaking which involves further action on the part of the Government in reporting back to the House, it is called an 'assurance'. Standard list of such expressions which normally constitute assurances as approved by the Committee on Government Assurances (CGA) of the respective House, is given at Annex-3. As assurances are required to be implemented within a specified time limit, care should be taken by all concerned while drafting replies to the questions to restrict the use of these expressions only to those occasions when it is clearly intended to give an assurance on the floor of the House.

Definition

8.2 An assurance given in either House is required to be fulfilled within a period of three months from the date of the assurance. This limit has to be strictly followed.

Time limit for fulfilling an assurance

8.3 To ensure early fulfillment of assurances, entire process beginning from culling out of assurances from the proceedings of the House to the submission of Implementation Report including extension of time, dropping and transfer of assurances have been automated through a Software Application named "Online Assurances Monitoring System" (OAMS). Requests for extension of time, dropping or transfer of assurances and submission of Implementation Report through any other offline mode shall not be entertained under any circumstances.

Online Assurances Monitoring System (OAMS)

Culling out of Assurances

8.4 When an assurance is given by a Minister or when the Presiding Officer, directs the Government to furnish information to the House, it is extracted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, from the relevant proceedings and communicated to the Department concerned online through 'OAMS' normally within 20 working days of the date on which it is given on the floor of the House.

Deletion from the list of assurances

8.5 If the administrative Ministry/Department has any objection to treating such a statement as an assurance or finds that it would not be in the public interest to fulfill it, it may upload its request at 'OAMS' within a week of treating such statement as assurance for getting it deleted from the list of assurances. Such action will require prior approval of the Minister concerned and this fact should be clearly indicated in their communication containing the request. If such a request is made towards the end of stipulated period of three months, then it should invariably be accompanied with a request of extension of time. The department should continue to seek extension of time till the decision of the Committee on Government Assurances is conveyed through 'OAMS'. Requests received through offline mode shall not be entertained by either Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha Secretariat or Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

Extension of time for fulfilling an assurance

8.6 If the Department finds that it is not possible to fulfill the assurance within the stipulated period of three months or within the period of extension already granted, it may seek further extension of time as soon as the need for such extension becomes apparent, indicating the reasons for delay and the probable additional time required alongwith details of action taken/progress made in the matter. All such request should be submitted at 'OAMS' for decision by CGA thereon with the approval of the concerned Minister.

Registers of Assurances

8.7.1 The particulars of every assurance will be entered by the Parliament Unit of the Ministry/Department concerned in a register as at Annex 4 after which the assurance will be passed on to the concerned section

8.7.2 Even ahead of the receipt of communication from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs through 'OAMS' the section concerned should take prompt action to fulfill such assurances and keep a watch thereon in a register as at Annex 5.

8.7.3 The registers referred to in paras 8.7.1 and 8.7.2 will be maintained separately for the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha assurances, entries therein being made session wise.

The Section Officer in charge of the concerned section will:

Role of Section Officer and Branch Officer

- (a) scrutinize the registers once a week;
- (b) ensure that necessary follow-up action is taken without any delay whatsoever;
- (c) submit the registers to the branch officer every fortnight if the House concerned is in session and once a month otherwise, drawing his special attention to assurances which are not likely to be implemented within the period of three months; and
- (d) review of pending assurances should be undertaken periodically at the highest level in order to minimize the delay in implementing the assurances.

8.8 The branch officer will likewise keep his higher officer and Minister informed of the progress made in the implementation of assurances, drawing their special attention to the causes of delay.

8.9.1 Every effort should be made to fulfill the assurance within the prescribed period. In case only part of the information is available and collection of the remaining information would involve considerable time, an Implementation Report(IR) containing the available information should be uploaded at 'OAMS' in part fulfillment of the assurance, within the prescribed time limit. However, efforts should continue to be made for expeditious collection of the remaining information for complete implementation of the assurance at the earliest.

Procedure for fulfillment of an assurance

8.9.2 Information to be furnished in partial or complete fulfillment of an assurance should be approved by the Minister concerned before it is uploaded at 'OAMS' in both English and Hindi versions in the prescribed pro forma as at Annex-6 , together with its enclosures. After online submission of the Report for fulfillment of the assurance partial or complete as the case may be, four hard copies each in Hindi and English version with one copy of each version duly authenticated by the officer concerned should be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for laying until e-laying is adopted by the concerned House.

8.9.3 The Implementation Report should be submitted at 'OAMS' only. Implementation Report sent by any other mode or sent to Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha Secretariat directly, will not be considered for laying.

Laying of the
Implementation
Report on the Table
of the House

8.10 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, after scrutiny of the Implementation Report, will arrange to lay it on the Table of the House concerned. A copy of the Implementation Report, as laid on the Table, will be forwarded by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to the member(s) concerned. Details of laying of Implementation Report submitted by the Ministry/Department concerned would be made available by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs at 'OAMS'. The Parliament Unit of the Ministry/Department concerned and the concerned section will, on the basis of information available at 'OAMS', update their records.

Obligation to lay a
paper on the Table
of the House vis-à-
vis assurance on the
same subject

8.11 Where there is an obligation to lay any paper (rule/order/notification, etc.) on the Table of the House and for which an assurance has also been given, it will be laid on the Table, in the first instance, in fulfillment of the obligation, independent of the assurance given. After this, a formal report regarding implementation of the assurance indicating the date on which the paper was laid on the Table will be submitted at 'OAMS' in the prescribed pro forma (Annex-6) in the manner already described in para 8.9.2

8.12 Each House of Parliament has a Committee on Government Assurances nominated by the Chairman/Speaker. It scrutinizes the Implementation Reports and the time taken in the fulfillment of Government Assurances and focuses attention on the delays and other significant aspects, if any, pertaining to them. Instructions issued by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from time to time as available on 'OAMS' are to be followed strictly.

Committees
on Government
Assurances
RSR 211-A
LSR 323, 324

8.13 The Ministries/Departments will, in consultation with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, scrutinize the reports of these two Committees for remedial action wherever called for.

Reports of the
Committees on
Government
Assurances

8.14 On dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the pending assurances do not lapse. All assurances, promises or undertakings pending implementation are scrutinized by the new Committee on Government Assurances for selection of such of them as are of considerable public importance. The Committee then submits a report to the Lok Sabha with specific recommendations regarding the assurances to be dropped or retained for implementation by the Government.

Effect on assurances
on dissolution of
the Lok Sabha



Appendix - II

*Discussion on The Personal Law
(Amendment) Bill dated 21/8/2010*

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY):
Madam Speaker, I am highly grateful to all the hon. Members, cutting across party lines, for having given full support to this Bill.

I do not say that in the regime of equality for women this is exhaustive. This is only a sample out of some of the measures which we have started.

In fact, I agree with the hon. Members including Dr. Girija Vyas, the Chairman of the National Commission for Women. She said that a number of measures – as many as 52 proposals – have been made by the National Commission for Women, to create gender equality. We are really looking into this matter. I think, not a single week passes – in the Legislative Department – without looking into many aspects of women, which includes gender equality and also putting down the atrocities on women. So, we are at it.

In fact, this is the core theme of the UPA Government. The idea is to have complete equality for women in all spheres and make it a practical reality especially by removing discriminatory legislation and conferring equal rights to women. I do agree that a comprehensive approach will have to be made; sometimes it may be difficult to bring all the legislations together because of the technical and logistic reasons, but I can definitely say that in the years to come, we will ensure that all spheres of activities will be definitely dealt by the Law Department and various other administrative Departments of the Government. In fact, there is a growing demand for making laws free from gender bias, which includes changing the social and economic content of law. Mere law is not enough; we need to inject the new regime of human psyche, a new regime of mindset of the people.

But I must tell you many histories where great social reformers fought for freedom of women with all difficulties. But I find that our society had evolved itself into a mature society where they are prepared to absorb laws relating to equality. When that is the fertile ground for making a law, I think, in this tenure of

the Parliament itself, I would ensure that we would take advantage of that and bring a comprehensive law on women equality.

All the hon. Members vociferously supported this Bill. I must say that even in the legal mission which we have brought about, we are going to have a classification of the cases and also the prioritization of the cases in relation to women and children so that those cases are taken up first, right from the munsif court to the Supreme Court. We are getting into that area so that they will not wait for justice.

Justice delivery system will be very much tuned up so that they will not wait in queue to get justice in the courts of law. I do not want to say much on this. But the discrimination does exist; we need to bring in greater changes definitely.

Many issues are raised here; even Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh raised an issue; we would like to address that, but I do not have the facts before me. I do not think, that is also very much relevant to speak on those things now.

Many hon. Members have suggested solutions; there are some of legislations, which are gender-neutral; we need to bring them. The day will not be far off, when under the august Chairmanship of the hon. Madam Speaker, Women's Reservation Bill will be a reality in this House. That is a major step and a major reform which we can bring here. I am hopeful; whatever may be the reason, let the Bill be passed. If any amendment is required at subsequent stage, we will definitely go in for that. But, at the same time, this House should not reflect the male chauvinistic attitude to the country and to the world. That is the perception we need to correct.

With this, I thank all the hon. Members, particularly hon. Madam Speaker for having given time for passing this great historic Bill, though simple.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890 and the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MADAM SPEAKER: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI VEERAPPA MOILY: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3922

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 21ST MARCH, 2013.

CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE

3922. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives of the Section 80 of the Civil Procedure Code (CPC) ;
- (b) the number of notices received by the Union Government as well as State Governments during the last three years and the current year under this Section;
- (c) the number of cases decided after the receipt of notices and the number of cases filed in courts after the receipt of notices; and
- (d) the number of cases in which the Union Government/State Governments are a party?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a): The objective of Section 80 of the Civil Procedure Code is to give an opportunity to the Government or a public officer to consider for itself or himself would grant the relief claimed to the plaintiff or contest the suit.

(b) to (d): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Appendix - IV

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2075

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 18TH DECEMBER, 2013.

RELIGIOUS TRUSTS IN STATES

+2075. SHRI WAKCHAURE BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the States wherein the State Law and Justice department have set up any trusts to manage the affairs of religious places, including Maharashtra;
- (b) whether complaints regarding alleged irregularities by such religious trusts/non-setting up of new trusts in place of the defaulting ones even after completion of their tenure have been received during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the State-wise details thereof, particularly Maharashtra;
- (d) whether the Union Government has issued or proposes to issue any guidelines to the State Governments regarding setting up trusts to manage religious places; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (e): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

Appendix-V

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 4164

ANSWERED ON:19.02.2014

LAW OF TORTS

J.M. AARON RASHID

(a)whether the country has an effective law of torts to provide relief to persons who have suffered from harm from the wrongful acts of others;

(b)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c)the steps being taken by the Government to codify the law of torts to protect the interest of victims of man-made disasters`?

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:-

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI KAPIL S1BAL)

(a): No, Madam.

(b)& (c) : In order to codify the law relating to Torts, a reference was made by the Central Government to the Law Commission of India to make its recommendations/report.

The Law Commission of India is yet to submit its recommendations/report.

Appendix-VI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4176

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 18TH DECEMBER, 2014

Amendment in Laws Dealing with Elections

4176. SHRI GANGA RAJU:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend the relevant laws to abolish the practice of contesting by a candidate from two constituencies simultaneously in elections in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of by-elections held due to vacation of seats as result thereof in the just concluded General Election along with the expenditure incurred thereon;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to make the candidate bear the expenditure so incurred in the by-election to the seat vacated by him; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the other steps taken/proposed to be taken to discourage such practice of contesting from two seats and save avoidable expenditure?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a), (b), (d) and (e): The issue of electoral reforms in its entirety which, *inter alia* includes restriction on the number of seats from which a candidate may contest and to make the candidate bear the expenditure incurred on conducting the bye- election to the seat vacated by him, has been referred to the Law Commission of India for its examination and Report. On receipt of the Report of the Law Commission, the matter will be examined in consultation with the stakeholders.

(c): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Appendix - VII

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 479

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 26TH FEBRUARY, 2015.

PROPERTY SUCCESSION LAWS FOR CHRISTIANS

479. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the property Succession Laws for Christians families in the country is biased against the women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Law Commission has given any recommendation for suitable amendments in the said laws to make it equally beneficial to both men and women;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI. D.V.SADANANDA GOWDA)

- (a) to (e) The 20th Law Commission of India in its 247th Report (2014) on "Sections 41 to 48 of the Indian Succession Act of 1925 - Proposed Reforms" has recommended for amendment of sections 42 to 48 of the Indian Succession Act of 1925 to protect the interests of Christian women in matters of intestate succession. Said Report is available on its website www.lawcommissionofindia.nic.in. Since the subject matter of the report is relatable to a concurrent field subject, namely, Entry 5 of the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, comments/views of the State Governments and Union territory Administrations are being solicited.

Appendix - VIII

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2824

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 6TH AUGUST, 2015.

LEGISLATION AGAINST HONOUR KILLING

2824. SHRI MATI KIRRON KHER:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the follow-up action taken on the 242nd report of Law Commission on "Prevention of Interference with the Freedom of Matrimonial Alliance";
- (b) whether all the States/UTs have submitted their responses thereto and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the legislation on the issue is likely to be finalized; and
- (d) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

- (a) and (b) This Department had sought for the comments/views of the State Governments/Union-territory Administrations on the 242nd Report of the Law Commission titled "Prevention of Interference with the Freedom of Matrimonial Alliances (in

the name of Honour and Tradition)", 2012. Till date, comments/views of 27 States Governments namely, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and all Union territory Administrations have been received on the said Report. Responses of remaining State Governments are awaited.

- (c) and (d) After considering the comments of all the State Governments/Union-territory Administrations and having wider consultation with the stakeholders, a policy decision to enact the legislation on the subject will be taken. In view of the above, it may not be possible to fix any time frame in this regard.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

Appendix - IX

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 1988

ANSWERED ON: 10.12.2015

Model Code of Conduct

RAVINDRA K JMAR PANDEY

- (a) the number of cases of violation of model code of conduct reported/registered during various elections in the country during the last three years and the current year. State/UT-wise;
- (b) the number of such cases disposed of and the quantum of punishment awarded to the violators during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the number of such cases pending for disposal as on date, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has held any discussions with the Election Commission of India regarding enrolling of youths on immediately on attaining the age of 18 years and for expediting the disposal of aforesaid pending cases within the stipulated time frame; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:-

ANSWER

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a) to (e): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.711

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 21ST JULY, 2016.

MODERN MODE OF COMMUNICATION

711. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Code of Civil Procedure as amended from time to time mandates the use of modern mode of communication such as speed posts, e-mails etc.;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is aware that courts still continue to send summons only through process servers and delivery by hand through court staff across the country;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether many High Courts have not adopted the amended provisions of Code of Civil Procedure and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that all the High Courts in the country use modern mode of communication?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)

- (a) Yes, Madam. Order 5 rule 9 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908) provide for delivery of summons by court. The said provision has been amended *vide* the Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2002 (22 of 2002). Rule 9 provide for delivery summons either through proper officer or by registered post acknowledgment due or by speed post or by

such courier services as are approved by the High Court or by the concerned Court or by any other means of transmission of documents (including fax message or electronic mail service) provided by the rules made by the High Court. This rule provides for the modern mode of communications such as speed posts, e-mails.

(b) to (c): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SAHA

Appendix - XI

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 85

ANSWERED ON: 16.11.2016

Electoral Reforms

JAYSHREEBEN PATEL

- (a) the number of national and state level parties recognised by the election commission in India currently;
- (b) the number of electoral reforms made during the last three years and along with the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received the recommendations made by the Central Minister level Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government proposes to make them public?

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:-

ANSWER

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d):- The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.171

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 16th NOVEMBER, 2016

SIMULTANEOUS PARLIAMENT AND ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

171. SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY
SHRI P. C. MOHAN

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is mulling to hold simultaneous polls to Parliament and Assembly elections to reduce expenses in the near future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Communication has been held with various stakeholders and political parties in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details and response received in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS
AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d):- The matter regarding conduct of simultaneous election for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies was examined by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice. The Committee in its 79th Report has given certain recommendations which are under examination of the Government.

Appendix - XIV

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 980

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 08TH FEBRUARY, 2017

FUNDING OF POLITICAL PARTIES

980. SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has planned a discussion for change in fund raising process of political parties and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Government has planned to frame a new law to make funding of political parties more transparent and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government is mulling to have State funding of elections as recommended by the Indrajit Gupta Committee and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): The issue of electoral reforms in its entirety, was referred to the Law Commission to make suitable recommendations, after taking into consideration the reports of various Committees in the past, views of Election Commission and other stakeholders. The Law Commission in its 255th report has made several recommendations on electoral reforms which, *inter-alia*, include certain changes in fund raising process of political parties. The recommendations of the Law Commission are under consideration of the Government.

The Law Commission has, however, not recommended State funding of elections.

Appendix - XIV

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3334

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 22nd MARCH, 2017

Simultaneous Election of Lok Sabha and State Assemblies

3334. SHRI B.N. CHANDRAPPA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has sought the views of people on holding simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any response from the public in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has taken any steps to conduct any study in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (f): The matter regarding conduct of simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies was examined by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice in consultation with all stake-holders. The Committee in its 79th Report has given certain recommendations in this regard. These recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

Appendix - X.Y

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4600

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 29th MARCH, 2017

VIOLATION OF ELECTION REGULATION

4600. SHRI DHARAM VIRA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any measures to address the issues of paid news, media advertisements, opening of separate bank accounts by the candidates for the election expenditure, etc. in the recently concluded State assembly elections; and
- (b) if so, the details of incidents in which cases have been filed against parties or people involved in violation of the regulations?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Appendix - XVI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1809

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 26TH JULY, 2017.

Convictions in Scams

+1809. SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be please to state:

- (a) the list of persons found guilty after judgment of courts in political/economic and other types of scams in the last three years;
- (b) the action taken to release the embezzled amount from persons found guilty in said scams;
- (c) the list of said persons; and
- (d) the numbers of persons out of said persons from whom the embezzled amount has been released along with the details of amount released therefrom?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Appendix - XV

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2950

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 02ND AUGUST, 2017

SIMULTANEOUS ELECTIONS

†2950. SHRI GOPAL SHETTY:
SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to hold simultaneous elections to Panchayats, urban local bodies, States and Parliament;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the status thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has held discussions at various levels and took the opinion of the States and Union Territories in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P.F. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d): The matter regarding conduct of simultaneous election for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies was examined by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice. The Committee in its 79th Report has given certain recommendations which are under examination of the Government.

Appendix - XVIII

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 760

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 07TH FEBRUARY, 2018

CRIMINALS CONTESTING ELECTIONS

760. SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to take any step to prevent the dreaded criminals from contesting elections;
- (b) if so, the details and the present status thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any proposal in this regard from various stakeholders; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS
(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b): As per section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a person convicted of offences specified therein shall be disqualified for membership of the legislatures from the date of such conviction and shall continue to be disqualified for a further period of six years since his release.

(c) and (d): The issue of electoral reform in its entirety was referred to the Law Commission of India in the year 2013. After consultation with various stake-holders, the Law Commission submitted its 244th report containing recommendation that a person shall be disqualified for membership of legislatures upon framing of charges against him for specified offences, subject to certain other conditions. The recommendations of the Law Commission are under examination.

Appendix - LX

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1883

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 07TH MARCH, 2018

SIMULTANEOUS ELECTION

1883. SHRI P. KUMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the President has talked about simultaneous polls in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any consultations have been held with the Election Commission in this regard;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is considering to have simultaneous polls in the next General Election; and
- (f) if so, the modalities finalised in this regard so far?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS
(SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): The Hon'ble President in his addresses to joint session of the Parliament on 29th Jan, 2018 has stated that frequent elections not only impose a huge burden on human resources but also impede the development process due to the promulgation of the model code of conduct. Therefore, a sustained debate is required on the subject of Simultaneous elections and all political parties need to arrive at a consensus on this issue.

(c) to (f): The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice had examined the issue of simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies in consultation with various stake-holders including Election Commission of India. The Committee has given certain recommendations in this regard in its 79th Report which are presently under consideration.

Appendix - 1/1

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2526

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 01st AUGUST, 2018

PROPOSAL FOR SIMULTANEOUS ELECTION

2526. KUMARI SUSHMITA DEV:
SHRI JAYADEV GALLA;
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
DR. A. SAMPATH:
SHRI OM BIRLA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Law Commission is in favour of holding simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Legislatures in the country and if so, the details thereof along with changes proposed by them on electoral reforms;
- (b) whether the Law Commission has recently held discussions/consultations with major political parties on the possibility of holding Lok Sabha and Assembly polls together and if so, the details of the consultations held with political parties on the issue and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether there is a need to amend the Constitution, Representation of People Act, etc., to make it a reality;
- (d) if so, the preliminary/ground work that the Ministry has done in this regard along with the details of survey, if any, conducted to determine expense and subsequent savings if simultaneous election are carried out;
- (e) the details of parties that are supporting and those opposing and the efforts being made to get unanimity on the matter; and
- (f) whether conducting elections for Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies in the country, separately is likely to create hurdles in smooth functioning of

the administrative system and the law and order related problems persist throughout the year and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE
AFFAIRS
(SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)**

(a) to (f): The Law Commission has informed that the matter is still under its examination. It has been further informed that the process of consulting the stakeholders including Constitutional Experts, Academia, Political Parties, Bureaucrats, students etc. is also under way.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT
LOK SABHA

Appendix - Y.XI

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 353

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 12th DECEMBER, 2018

BAN ON CRIMINALS CONTESTING ELECTIONS

†353. SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to take any step to check criminals from contesting election;
- (b) if so, the details and the present status thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received proposals in this regard from various political parties; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE
AFFAIRS
(SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)**

(a) and (b): As per section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a person convicted of offences specified therein shall be disqualified for membership of the legislatures from the date of such conviction and shall continue to be disqualified for a further period of six years since his release.

(c) and (d): The issue of electoral reform in its entirety was referred to the Law Commission of India in the year 2013. After consultation with various stake-holders, the Law Commission submitted its 244th report containing recommendation that a person shall be disqualified for membership of legislatures upon framing of charges against him for specified offences, subject to certain other conditions. The recommendations of the Law Commission are under examination of the Government.

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Appendix - XXII

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 827

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 26TH JUNE, 2019

DISCREPANCY IN EVM AND VVPAT

827. SHRI PRASUN BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any discrepancy was found between the EVM and VVPAT machine counts in any of the constituencies in the recently concluded Lok Sabha elections; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, constituency-wise and the corrective measures taken in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) and (b): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 839

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 26TH JUNE, 2019

ELECTORAL REFORMS

839. SHRI T. N. PRATHAPAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many significant electoral reforms such as curbing the use of black money/ to fund election etc. as recommended by a committee on electoral reforms are pending;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to bring in electoral reforms to make the election process transparent;
- (d) whether the Government is ready to implement further electoral reforms to ensure transparency in the wake of constant complaints against EVM tampering and manipulation of election result; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (c): The Law Commission of India in its 255th report has made several recommendations on "Electoral Reforms" which, *inter-alia*, include regulation of finances of political parties aimed at curbing use of black money in elections. The recommendations of the Law Commission are under consideration of the Government..

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(d) and (e):The Election Commission of India has informed that the EVMs used by them are non-tamperable both due to the technological measures, and also due to strict administrative and security procedures laid down in this regard. The machine used by the Commission is a stand-alone, non-networked and one time programmable one, which is neither computer controlled, nor connected to the internet or any network and hence cannot be hacked. The machine is electronically protected to prevent any tampering/manipulation. The programme used in these machines is burnt into a one-time programmable/masked chip so that it cannot be altered or tampered with.

Appendix - XXIX

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1816

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 03rd JULY, 2019

CAPPING ON PARTY'S EXPENDITURE

1816. SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Election Commission of India proposes capping on party's expenditure on candidates and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) Whether Election Commission has identified unchecked money power as one of the biggest concerns and has been rooting for capping party and campaign expenditure to ensure a level playing field to all parties and to check the money power visible during every election and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether expenditure on elections is increasing because elections to Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies are not held simultaneously and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the expenditure on elections will decrease if elections to Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies are held simultaneously and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) and (b): The Election Commission of India has proposed that there should be ceiling on Party's expenditure in all elections on the lines of the cap of expenditure for the candidates. The proposal is under examination of the Government.

(c) and (d): No empirical data are available to prove that the increase in expenditure on elections over the year is attributable to the conduct of separate elections to Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies. The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice in its 79th Report has observed that simultaneous elections would reduce the massive expenditure incurred for conduct of separate elections every year.

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Appendix - XXV

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2727

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 10th JULY, 2019

COMMITTEE ON ONE NATION, ONE ELECTION

2727. SHRI B. Y. RAGHAVENDRA:
SHRI D. K. SURESH:
SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:
SHRI SHIVAKUMAR C. UDASI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes for One Nation, One Election in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has held discussions at various levels and took the opinion of the States and Union Territories in this regard and if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating to set up any committee to study the pros and cons of the said proposal and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (c): The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice had examined the issue of simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies in consultation with various stake-holders including Election Commission of India. The Committee has given certain recommendations in this regard in its 79th Report. The matter now stands referred to the Law Commission for further examination to work out practicable road map and framework for simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Assemblies.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

Appendix - XXVI

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 681

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 20th NOVEMBER 2019

ONE NATION ONE ELECTION

681. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI
& DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is in the process of implementing 'one nation one election';
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed decision;
- (c) whether the Government has consulted all stakeholders on this issue and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which the proposed 'one nation one election' would be implemented?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (d) : The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice had examined the issue of simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies in consultation with various stake-holders including Election Commission of India. The Committee has given certain recommendations in this regard in its 79th Report. The matter now stands referred to the Law Commission for further examination to work out practicable road map and framework for simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Assemblies.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

Appendix - XXVII

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2753

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 04th DECEMBER 2019

AMENDMENT TO REPRESENTATION OF PEOPLE ACT
2753. SHRI M.V.V. SATYANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Election Commission of India has recently sought opinion from the Government on proposed amendments to the Representation of the People Act, 1951, that will require citizens to link their Electoral Photo ID Card (EPIC) with the 12-digit Aadhaar Card and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is also considering to bring suitable law/ amendments in the Representation of the people Act, 1951 for issuance of Single Card which contain Aadhaar Number, Voter Identity Card Number and PAN card number, to each citizen of India; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (c) : In order to ensure preparation of error free electoral roll and to prevent duplication of entries, a proposal to amend Representation of the People Act, 1951 to enable linking of electoral data with Aadhar system has been received from the Election Commission. The matter is under examination.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2022-2023)
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)
SECOND SITTING
(16.01.2023)

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1545 hours in Committee Room '03', Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
3. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
4. Shri Khagen Murmu
5. Shri M.K. Raghavan
6. Prof. Sougata Ray

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri J.M. Baisakh - Joint Secretary
2. Dr. (Smt.) Sagarika Dash - Director
3. Shri M.C. Gupta - Deputy Secretary
4. Smt. Vineeta Sachdeva - Under Secretary

WITNESSES

Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department)

1. Dr. Reeta Vasishtha, Secretary
2. Shri Diwakar Singh, Joint Secretary Legislative Counsel
3. Shri Vinay Kumar Mishra, Deputy Legislative Counsel
4. Shri S. Mahesh Babu, Assistant Legislative Counsel
5. Shri Navneet Patial, Superintendent (Legal)
6. Shri Girdhar Gopal Verma, Superintendent (Legal)

Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

1. Shri P.K. Haldar - Under Secretary

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them that the sitting has been convened to take oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) regarding pending Assurances.

2. Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs were ushered in. The Chairperson welcomed the witnesses to the sitting of the Committee and drew their attention to confidentiality of the deliberations till the Reports are presented to the House. The Committee then took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) regarding pending Assurances. Considering the pendency of large number of Assurances of the Ministry for a long time, the Chairperson asked the representatives to give an overview of the pending Assurances and also apprise the Committee about the internal mechanism in place for monitoring and review of pending Assurances in the Ministry.

3. The Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department), briefed the Committee about the review meetings being held for implementation of pending Assurances. The Chairperson asked the representatives of the Ministry to furnish the Minutes of the review meetings for monitoring of pending Assurances.

4. The Committee then took up each of the 26 Assurances on various subjects pertaining to the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) for detailed deliberations (Annexure). The Members raised queries and sought clarifications on the pending Assurances which were replied by the representatives of the Ministry. In view of the explanations submitted by the representatives of the Ministry during the course of oral evidence, the Committee decided to accede to the request of the Ministry to drop the Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 and 25. As some queries required detailed replies and inputs from various quarters, the Chairperson directed that written replies to the same may be furnished to the Secretariat in due course.

5. The Committee observed that there have been inordinate delay in laying of Implementation Reports in the House even though action has been completed on various Assurances by the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department). The Committee directed the representatives of the Ministry to furnish Implementation Reports in respect of all such Assurances to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs at the earliest.

6. The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for deposing before the Committee and furnishing valuable information in connection with the review of pending Assurances.

7. The witnesses, then, withdrew.

8. A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

Annexure

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2022-2023), LOK SABHA
Statement of Pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Law and Justice
(Legislative Department) discussed during Oral Evidence held on 16.01.2023

Sl.No.	SQ/USQ No. dated	Subject
1.	General Discussion dated 21.08.2010	Personnel Law (Amendment) Bill
2.	USQ No. 3922 dated 21.03.2013	Civil Procedure Code
3.	USQ No. 2075 dated 18.12.2013	Religious Trusts in States
4.	USQ No. 4164 dated 19.02.2014	Law of Torts
5.	USQ No. 4176 dated 18.12.2014	Amendment in Laws dealing with Elections
6.	USQ No. 479 dated 26.02.2015	Property Succession Laws for Christians
7.	USQ No. 2824 dated 06.08.2015	Legislation against Honour Killing
8.	USQ No. 1988 dated 10.12.2015	Model Code of Conduct
9.	USQ No. 711 dated 21.07.2016	Modern Mode of Communication
10.	USQ No. 85 dated 16.11.2016	Electoral Reforms
11.*	USQ No. 171 dated 16.11.2016	Simultaneous Parliament and Assembly Elections
12.*	USQ No. 980 dated 08.02.2017	Funding of Political Parties
13.*	USQ No. 3334 dated 22.03.2017	Simultaneous Election of Lok Sabha and State Assemblies

14.*	USQ No. 4600 dated 29.03.2017	Violation of Election Regulation
15.	USQ No. 1809 dated 26.07.2017	Convictions in Scams
16.*	USQ No. 2950 dated 02.08.2017	Simultaneous Elections
17*	USQ No. 760 dated 07.02.2018	Criminals Contesting Elections
18*	USQ No. 1883 dated 07.03.2018	Simultaneous Election
19*	USQ No. 2526 dated 01.08.2018	Proposal for Simultaneous Election
20	USQ No. 353 dated 12.12.2018	Ban on Criminals contesting Elections
21	USQ No. 827 dated 26.06.2019	Discrepancy in EVM and VVPAT
22*	USQ No. 839 dated 26.06.2019	Electoral Reforms
23*	USQ No. 1816 dated 03.07.2019	Capping on Party's Expenditure
24*	USQ No. 2727 dated 10.07.2019	Committee on One Nation, One Election
25*	USQ No. 681 dated 20.11.2019	One Nation One Election
26	USQ No. 2753 dated 04.12.2019	Amendment to Representation of People Act.

* Committee acceded to the request of Ministry to drop the Assurance.

MINUTES
 COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
 (2022-2023)
 (SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)
 SEVENTH SITTING
 (25.07.2023)

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1530 hours in Room No. 216 (Chamber of Hon'ble Chairperson), 'B' Block, Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - Chairperson

Members

2. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
3. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
4. Shri Kaushlendra Kumar
5. Shri Khagen Murmu
6. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu

Secretariat

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Shri J.M. Baisakh | - Joint Secretary |
| 2. Dr. (Smt.) Sagarika Dash | - Director |
| 3. Shri Mahesh Chand Gupta | - Deputy Secretary |
| 4. Smt. Vineeta Sachdeva | - Under Secretary |

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the following eight (08) draft Reports without any amendments:-

- (i) Draft Eighty-Third Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare)';
- (ii) Draft Eighty-Fourth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Railways';
- (iii) Draft Eighty-Fifth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department)';

- (iv) Draft Eighty-Sixth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways'.
- (v) Draft Eighty-Seventh Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)';
- (vi) Draft Eighty-Eighth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)';
- (vii) Draft Eighty-Ninth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)'; and
- (viii) Draft Ninetieth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)'.

2. The Committee authorized the Chairperson to present the Reports during the ongoing session.

The Committee then adjourned.