

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:836
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2003
REVIEW OF EXISTING LEGAL SYSTEM
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

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

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'legal, social systems help rapists get away' appearing in the Hindustan Times dated June 12, 2003.
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) whether the Government propose to carry out indepth review of existing legal system and to devise stringent measure for fool-proof legal system to punish the guilty;
- (d) if so, the time by which such a review is proposed to be undertaken; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
 - (b) The matter relates to various aspects of the legal system, such as delay in investigation and disposal of cases, witnesses turning hostile, and lack of social awareness.
 - (c) (d) & (e) The Law Commission and other bodies like the Arrears Committee (Malimath Committee) have evaluated salient issues relating to the legal and judicial system, and judicial reforms. The Law Commission undertook a comprehensive review of the Code of Criminal Procedure and made several recommendations with regard to rapid disposal of cases.
- In view of the recommendations made by such reviewing bodies, the Government have taken appropriate measures periodically like simplification of legal proceedings for speedy disposal of cases, computerization of Court management, appointment of Special Magistrates, and review of the strength of Judges.