

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1738

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2004

CUT IN THE VACATIONS OF THE COURTS

Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

(a) whether the Government has expressed concern over the complaints against judicial system and has urged Chief Justice of India to do `soul searching` to bring in accountability and transparency in its functioning;

(b) if so, whether the Government has also suggested to cut down the long vacations and increasing the number of working days which will improve the productivity of the judicial system;

(c) if so, the extent to which the judiciary has agreed to the suggestion made by the Government and the extent to which judiciary has been accountable from corruption; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY)

(a) and (b): The Hon`ble Prime Minister, in his address to the conference of Chief Justices & Chief Ministers held on September 18, 2004 in New Delhi inter-alia observed as follows;

` The framers of our Constitution wanted to protect and preserve the independence of our judiciary. This places a greater onus and responsibility on the members and practitioners of our judiciary to maintain the highest standards of probity and integrity. Accountability and transparency norms cannot, and should not, be imposed on the judiciary from outside. It is, I believe, up to the judiciary to do some soul-searching and ensure how this can best be done.`

Hon`ble Prime Minister in the said address had also suggested that the productivity of the judicial system may be improved by increasing the number of working days and cutting down vacations.

(c)and (d): Various steps taken to improve the productivity and efficiency of the judiciary include periodically monitoring the pendency position in courts, grouping of cases involving common question of law, constitution of specialized benches, timely filling up the vacancies of judges, increasing the judge strength, organizing Lok Adalats at regular intervals, encouraging alternative modes of disputes resolution like negotiation, mediation and arbitration and setting up of special tribunals like Central Administrative Tribunals, State Administrative Tribunals, Income Tax Appellate Tribunals, Family Courts, Labour Courts, Fast Track Courts etc.