

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2749  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2000  
LEGAL REFORMS  
ANANTRAO GUDHE;C. SREENIVAASAN

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

- (a) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives to revamp the Central/State statutes ,administrative laws, rules and procedures for efficient decision making process in the wake of the globalisation of trade and liberalisation of industry;
- (b) if so, the details of action taken/proposed to be taken to identify obsolete laws and update or scrap them in tune with the changing time and situations;
- (c) the details of road map planned for the time-bound legal reforms ; and
- (d) the role of State Governments envisaged in the reform process ?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR LAW, JUSTICE AND CO. AFFAIRS (SHRI RAMJETHMALINI)

(a) Yes, sir.

(b) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances requested the Legislative Department of Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs to coordinate with the Administrative Ministries/Departments of the Central Government and the State Governments in processing the repeal of about 1382 Central Acts identified either as obsolete or dysfunctional or needing modification. These enactments have been broadly classified as under:-

- 1) 166 Central Acts (including 11 Pre-Nationalisation Acts and 20 Validation Acts)
- 2) 315 Amendment Acts.
- 3) 11 British Statutes.
- 4) 17 War-time permanent Ordinances.
- 5) 114 Central Acts relating to State List (List II) of the Seventh Schedule to the constitution.
- 6) 700 (approximately) Appropriation Acts.
- 7) 35 Reorganisation Acts.
- 8) 12 Laws applicable to High Courts and
- 9) 12 Personal Laws.

The concerned Administrative Ministries are in the process of examining the proposals with a view to implement the same.

(c) The process will involve deep and careful study and wide-range consultations by the concerned Administrative Ministries/Departments and in view of the complexity of the matter, it is difficult to lay down any rigid time frame in bringing in the legal reforms.

(d) Besides undertaking necessary steps for reforms in the field of State Laws, the State Governments are required to consider the question of repeal of about 114 Central Acts which now are relatable to the State List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The State Governments are also required to offer their views/comments as and when consulted by the Central Administrative Ministries/Departments. They are also at liberty to suggest measures required for smooth Centre-State interface in fine tuning of laws.