GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5018 ANSWERED ON:19.04.2001 ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES DUMPA MARY VIJAYAKUMARI

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

- (a) whether the Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL) has devised 100% tamper proof electronic voting machines;
- (b) if so, whether ECIL is in a position to supply the required number of improvised machines for the ensuing elections; (
- (c) if so, whether the Election Commission has placed requisition for the improvised voting machines for the coming assembly elections in five States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

- (a) The Electronic Voting Machines being used by the Election Commission in the elections are being manufactured and supplied by two Central Public Undertakings, namely, M/s Electronics Corporation of India, Hyderabad and M/s Bharat Electronics Ltd. Bangalore. The software used in these machines is of fixed programme nature, which is fused into the processor and is effectively unalterable. A committee of experts constituted by the Government in April, 1990, consisting of Professor P.V. Indiresan, Dr. C. Rao Kasarbada and Professor Sampath has given its unanimous report that these machines cannot be tampered with.
- (b) to (d) The Commission had placed orders for the supply of 66,900 machines on each of the aforesaid two firms. Both the firms have completed the supply of these machines. The new Electronic Voting Machines are to be used for elections in the States of Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.