

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1603  
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2002  
CHANGE IN PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATION ACT  
MAHESHWAR SINGH;SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to formulate any policy to bring comprehensive changes in People's Representation Act in view of prevalent corruption in politics and increasing tendency of criminalisation of politics;
- (b) whether the Government propose to prepare any Code of Conduct in regard to elected public representatives;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI)

(a): The Government has introduced several Bills seeking to check corruption and criminalisation in politics. The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2001 which was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 05.12.2001, seeks to provide for open ballot system in respect of elections to Rajya Sabha (for checking reported prevalence of money power in Rajya Sabha elections). The Election and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2002 introduced in Lok Sabha on 19.03.2002 provides for inter alia funding of elections to the political parties (for checking corruption and money power in elections). The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2002 which seeks to implement the consensus arrived at in the all parties meetings held on 08.07.2002 and 02.08.2002 on certain aspects of criminalisation of politics, was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 25.11.2002 (again for checking criminalisation of politics). The Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, 2002, is also proposed to be introduced in the current session, which seeks to rationalize sub-sections (1), (2) and (3) of section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (for providing enhanced period of disqualification in cases of imprisonment).

(b) to (d) : The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2002 mentioned above also provides for declaration of assets and liabilities by the legislators (elected candidates) before the presiding officers of their concerned Houses. However, Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that there is no other proposal under consideration of that Ministry to formulate a Code of Conduct for the legislators.