

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:174
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2002
INTER-MINISTERIAL DISPUTES
JAYABEN B. THAKKAR

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

- (a) whether an inter-ministerial dispute over the appointment of advocates has led to the piling up of customs and excise disputes in various courts locking up revenue worth Rs.11,132 crores;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the efforts being made to resolve their differences at the earliest ?

Answer

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

(a),(b)&(c): No, Sir. In order to effectively conduct litigation in various courts and CEGAT, it was proposed by the Department of Revenue to maintain a separate panel of advocates for Customs and Central Excise cases with the concurrence of the Ministry of Law. A separate panel of advocates recommended by the Department of Revenue has already been approved and notified by the Ministry of Law for conducting cases before the Supreme Court. As regards maintaining of separate panel for conducting cases in other courts, counsels are engaged from the existing panel prepared by the Ministry of Law and where necessary suggestions of Department of Revenue regarding engagement of counsels are kept in view. In important matters, special counsels are also engaged on the recommendation of the Department of Revenue. Conduct of cases are regularly monitored.