

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3005
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2005
REVIEW AND RECAST OF POLICE LAW
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the International Advisory Commission of the Commonwealth Human Rights has requested the member countries to review and recast police laws, rules and regulations especially those that predated the 1948 universal declaration of Human Rights;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether the International Advisory Commission of the Commonwealth, Human Rights Initiative has also urged the member countries to re-examine international security laws to minimize the corruption and to remove obstacles to prosecution or victim compensation and civil suits for police wrong doing;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (e): The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, a non-governmental organisation had published a report in 2005 on Police Accountability. In this report, the non-governmental organisation's International Advisory Commission had recommended the review and re-cast of the police laws, rules and regulations, especially those that predated the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and re-examination of internal security laws to minimize the possibility of impunity and remove obstacles to prosecution or victim compensation and civil suits for police wrongdoing. These recommendations have been made by the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative from the perspective of a non-governmental organisation and is a general recommendation to all the commonwealth countries. In India laws are made by Parliament after taking into consideration all aspects of the situation in the country with due respect for human rights. The Government of India has also set-up a Committee of Experts to draft a new Police Act to replace the Police Act of 1861 with a view to ensuring transparency and accountability in the functioning of the police system and also to make it responsive to the concerns of the community, especially the weaker and vulnerable sections of the society.