GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LAW AND JUSTICE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:567 ANSWERED ON:25.02.2010 ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan

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

- (a) whether there is a need of electoral reforms in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the experts have expressed their concern over the tampering of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs); and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE(DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

- (a) and (b): The process of electoral reforms is a continuous and ongoing process and can be carried out after ascertaining the views among political parties. Further, it needs a deep and careful study. A number of proposals including the recommendations of the Election Commission are discussed with political parties at an appropriate time as a part of the process of reform of electoral laws. Similarly, the Government have been receiving numerous suggestions from the general public on the subject from time to time and all these will be taken together as and when discussions with political parties are held.
- (c): The Election Commission has intimated that some persons claiming to be experts have alleged that Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) can be tampered with.
- (d): The Election Commission has satisfaction that its EVMs cannot be tampered with. It has not found any substance in the allegations. Several of the persons who approached the Election Commission were given opportunity to come and demonstrate the alleged tamperability of EVMs used by the Election Commission but no one has been able to demonstrate any tampering with.