

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:111

ANSWERED ON:04.03.2010

DECLARATION OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES BY JUDGES

Jagannath Dr. M.;Singh Chaudhary Lal

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

- (a) whether all the High Courts are following the May, 1997 resolution of the Supreme Court on the voluntary declaration of assets and liabilities by the Judges;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a), (b), (c) & (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.111 for answer on 04-03-2010

The following Resolution was adopted in the Full Court Meeting of the Supreme Court of India on May 7, 1997:

‘RESOLVED FURTHER THAT every Judge should make a declaration of all his/her assets in the form of real estate or investments (held by him/her in his/her own name or in the name of his/her spouse or any person dependent him/her) within a reasonable time of assuming office and in the case of sitting Judges within a reasonable time of adoption of this Resolution and thereafter whenever any acquisition of a substantial nature is made, it shall be disclosed within a reasonable time. The declaration so made should be to the Chief Justice of the Court. The Chief Justice should make a similar declaration for the purpose of the record. The declaration made by the Judges or the Chief Justice, as the case may be, shall be confidential.’

2. Since the Judges are expected, as per the above Resolution, to declare their assets to the respective Chief Justices, the relevant information is also to be maintained by the Chief Justices. The Government has no role to play in this ‘in-house’ mechanism of the judiciary.

3. The Government is considering to give statutory cover to the above ‘in-house’ mechanism of the higher judiciary.