

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1254
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2011
LAW ENACTED BY BRITISHERS
Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ; Rama Devi Smt.

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

- (a) whether a number of laws which were enacted by Britishers are still in force in the country;
- (b) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the number of such laws in force at present, which were enacted by the Britishers but have not been amended till now;
- (d) whether through these laws people are harassed by the Indian bureaucracy;
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (f) the details of reformative steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M, VEERAFPA MOILY)

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) and (c) Review of all laws, including those enacted during the British era, with a view to bring them in harmony with the current economic, social and political situation in the country is a continuous process. This task is undertaken by different nodal Ministries/Departments of the Central Government administering the respective laws allocated to them and generally by the Law Commission of India.
- (d) No, Madam.
- (e) Does not arise.
- (f) The Law Commission of India, constituted by the Government from time to time, identifies the laws which would not be needed or relevant and could be repealed. The Commission also identifies the laws which need amendments and this mechanism takes care of legislative reforms in the country. However, in 1998 the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances of the Central Government had already set up a Committee on Review of Administrative Laws with the objective of examining the need of amendments in and repeal of laws, among others. The Committee recommended amendments to various laws and rules, review of Acts of critical importance and repeal of dysfunctional or irrelevant laws.