

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2334
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2011
POLITICAL PARTIES
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Election Commission of India has requested for special powers to enable them to strike such political parties off the rolls which are being floated only to launder money through donations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the funds received by such parties is being diverted to stock market and jewellery; and
- (d) if so, the number of political parties on which the Election Commission has sought action and stand taken or being taken by Government on the request of Election Commission?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Election Commission had suggested the need for an amendment to section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, adding a clause 'authorising the Election Commission to issue necessary orders regulating registration and de-registration of political parties' and the other recommendations of the Election Commission like auditing of the accounts of political parties by a panel of auditors approved by Comptroller Auditor- General (CAG) or Election Commission and such audited accounts be published annually. These suggestions of the Election Commission have been included in the Background Paper on Electoral Reforms prepared for holding nationwide consultations being organized by the Legislative Department and the Election Commission of India through a Core-Committee constituted by the Government on the 1st October, 2010, under the Chairmanship of Additional Solicitor General. The details have been put on the website of Ministry of Law and Justice -www.lawmin.nic.in.

(c) & (d): The Election Commission has informed that the report furnished by the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, Central Board of Direct Taxes, in respect of three political parties shows that the contributions received by one political party are being utilized by that party towards investment in shares, share application money, loans and advances, jewellery etc. In respect of other political parties, no information is available in the Commission. No action has been sought for by the Election Commission on such parties.