GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LAW AND JUSTICE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2344 ANSWERED ON:08.12.2011 PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATIONS Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

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

- (a) the number of Public Interest Litigations (PILs) filed in the Supreme Court and various High Courts, court-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of large number of frivolous litigations being filed under the guise of PIL;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to initiate action to check such frivolous litigations; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) to (e): The data regarding number of Public Interest Litigations filed in the Courts is not maintained by the Department of Justice as the matter falls exclusively within the jurisdiction of the higher judiciary. The matter of entertaining or curbing PlLs is within the domain of the Courts in which they are filed. The Hon`ble Supreme Court of India has, from time to time, provided certain guidelines in their various orders to check the misuse of Public Interest Litigation (PlL) by unscrupulous elements.