

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4467

ANSWERED ON:03.05.2012

JUDICIAL REFORMS

Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao; Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

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

- (a) whether the Government is preparing a roadmap for judicial reforms for providing quick and effective justice and bringing in transparency in judicial process for litigants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring structural changes for ensuring accountability at all levels;
- (d) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (e) the extent to which the Government has been able to plug loopholes in the judicial system through efforts made in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) to (e) The Government has been jointly with the judiciary constantly endeavouring and working towards providing quick and effective justice and bringing in transparency in the judicial process. The Government has set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms to achieve the twin goals of (i) increasing access by reducing delays and arrears; and (ii) enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. The Mission is pursuing several strategic initiatives in a consolidated manner. These initiatives are: (i) outlining policy and legislative changes (ii) reengineering of procedures and court processes (iii) focussing on Human Resource Development and (iv) leveraging Information and Communication Technology & tools for better justice delivery.

The delivery of justice is getting delayed by the fact that there is a huge backlog of cases. To free the criminal justice system of clogging, which is taking place on account of cases under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 and the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 serious efforts are being made to dispose them of on priority through special courts, Lok Adalats, Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms. Instructions have also been given the States to utilize funds under the Thirteenth Finance Commission for setting up special courts and morning / evening courts to dispose of such cases.

Frequent adjournment of court cases both in civil and criminal matters is known to be one of the biggest problems afflicting the judicial system. In order to plug the loopholes, necessary amendments have already been made to the Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 and the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 to regulate frequent adjournments.

Of late, National Court Management System has been conceived by the Hon`ble Chief Justice of India for establishment. This would be addressing issues of case management, court management, setting standards for measuring performance of the courts and a national system of judicial statistics in the country.

A Bill titled `The Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill, 2010` has been introduced in the Parliament which provides for a comprehensive system for looking into the complaints of misbehavior or incapacity of a Judge of the Supreme Court or High Court as well as the penalties which can be imposed on the completion of the enquiry. The Bill also lays down the judicial standards and makes it incumbent on the Judges to declare their assets/liabilities.