

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:166

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2012

ELECTORAL REFORMS

Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh;Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the suggestions received from the Election Commission of India, State Governments, political parties and other stakeholders in respect of electoral reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to bring about electoral reforms in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in replies to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.166 for answering on the 23rd August, 2012

(a) to (c): With a view to carrying out comprehensive electoral reforms, a Core-Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Solicitor General. The talking points of the Committee included (i) De-criminalisation of Politics; (ii) Funding of Elections; (iii) Conduct and Better Management of Elections; (iv) Regulation of Political Parties; (v) Audit and Finances of Political Parties; (vi) Review of Anti-Defection Law. The Committee under the aegis of Legislative Department and in co-sponsorship of the Election Commission of India conducted seven regional consultations at Bhopal, Kolkata, Mumbai, Lucknow, Chandigarh, Bengahiru and Guwahati, wherein the stakeholders have been consulted, who inter-alia included leaders and workers of the political parties, legislators, legal luminaries, representatives of NGOs, eminent persons, civil servants (serving and retired), students etc. and views have been gathered. The details of these consultations have been put on the website of the Ministry of Law and Justice i.e. [www.lawmin.nic.in](http://www.lawmin.nic.in). On the basis of the inputs received in these consultations, discussion with all political parties is contemplated.