

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4484

ANSWERED ON:20.12.2012

ELECTION EXPENDITURE

Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Shekhawat Shri Gopal Singh

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

- (a) the mechanism devised to find out information regarding donation amount being received by the political parties so far, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to make arrangements for auditing the amount received as donation by the political parties and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government received any proposal from the Election Commission to introduce a system under which the political parties can contest elections on Government expenditure; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a): Under section 29C of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951), the treasurer of a political party or any other person authorised by the political party in this behalf shall, in each financial year, is required to prepare and submit before the due date for furnishing a return of its income of that financial year under section 139 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961), to the Election Commission.

(b) to (d): Proposals for auditing of accounts of political parties by Comptroller and Auditor General of India or by a panel of auditors accredited and for providing State funding of elections are before the Government and a decision to this effect is required to be taken once a political consensus is arrived at amongst all political parties. In view of the complexities involved in these issues no rigid time-frame could be given.