

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1048
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2012
CORPORATE DONATION TO POLITICAL PARTIES
Singh Shri Dhananjay

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

- (a) whether any measures are being taken by the Election Commission of India to monitor all corporate donations to various political parties in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any proposal is being considered by the Election Commission of India or by the Government making it mandatory for all political parties to disclose the sources of their corporate fundings;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (Dr. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) & (b) : Yes Madam. Sub-section (1) of section 29C of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 provides that the political parties are required to prepare a report of all the contributions received by them exceeding Rs. 20,000/- in a financial year and required to submit the said report to the Election Commission.

(c) : Does not arise.

(d) & (e): Recently, the Election Commission of India forwarded a proposal to the Government of India to amend Form 24A, which relates to the furnishing of annual returns of income by political parties under section 139 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 to the Election Commission. The proposal inter alia includes provision for declaration by political parties about receipt of funds from foreign sources, Government bodies, etc., for annexing certificate from trusts regarding making contributions, mentioning total amount of contribution received by political parties during the year and making it compulsory for all political parties to file contribution reports including 'Nil' reports by political parties even if there is 'nil' contributions in excess of Rs. 20,000/- from a company or person. The matter is being examined.

(f) : Does not arise.