

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:829

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009

DIRECTIVES ON MERCY PLEA

Meinya Dr. Thokchom; Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad; Sinha Shri Yashwant

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of mercy petitions pending with the Government;
- (b) whether the Supreme Court has issued any directives in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken thereon by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a): The details of mercy petitions pending with the Government is enclosed as Annexure.
- (b) & (c): While deciding the Criminal Appeal No. 338 of 2007, the Supreme Court of India vide its order dated 18th September, 2009 has reminded the concerned Governments to dispose of the mercy petitions expeditiously.
- (d): As per the order of Hon'ble Court, the cases of mercy petitions are processed expeditiously in consultation with the concerned Governments/Departments for a final decision of the President of India under Article 72 of the Constitution. However, the power under Article 72 of the Constitution does not contain any limitation as to the time, in which the power conferred might be exercised.