GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LAW AND JUSTICE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5019 ANSWERED ON:25.04.2013 FACILITIES FOR QUASI JUDICIAL BODIES Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

(a) whether the Supreme Court has made any remarks that the Union Government is not providing facilities to courts and quasi judicial bodies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has failed to bring uniformity in service conditions and infrastructural facilities for Chairperson, Presidents, Members of Tribunals and quasi judicial bodies in spite of assurances given to the courts in this regard;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to provide these facilities to these bodies?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) to (e) In pursuance of the judgments of the Supreme Court of India in L. Chandra Kumar's case (AIR 1997 S.C. 1125 to 1155) and Civil Appeal No.3067 of 2004 – Union of India vs R. Gandhi, a proposal to bring all Tribunals under the administrative control of a single nodal agency and having uniformity of appointments and service conditions has been considered and inter-ministerial consultations held. There was, however, no consensus possible.

The Apex Court in the Writ Petition (Civil) No.120/2012 – Rajiv Garg vs. UOI has also been hearing a related matter where the Court passed an order that decision may be taken on the uniformity of tenure, uniformity/parity of age of retirement and uniformity of conditions of service of judicial members and chairmen of tribunals operating at the national level, including uniformity in the matter of provision of government accommodation. Since consensus in this respect has remained elusive in the past, Government has constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on 13.03.2013. The GoM will consider and examine all issues relating to uniformity of retirement age, conditions relating to the tenure of appointment/re-appointment and provisions concerning residential and office accommodation for quasi-judicial/regulatory bodies/tribunals, etc. manned by the sitting/retired Judges of the Supreme Court/High Courts keeping in view all related aspects including the issues that have arisen in different cases before the Supreme Court and functions entrusted to such bodies.