

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2253

ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013

CORRUPTION IN JUDICIARY

Bhagora Shri Tarachand;Gorakhnath Shri ;Kurup Shri N.Peethambara;Lal Shri Kirodi ;Ray Shri Rudramadhab

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any complaints/representations in regard to alleged corruption in judiciary;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into such cases;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the action taken against the guilty persons and if not, the reasons therefor, case-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to wipe out corruption in judiciary?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (e) : Representations alleging corruption in judiciary are received in the Government from time to time. As per the established "in-house mechanism" for the higher judiciary, the Chief Justice of India is competent to receive complaints against the conduct of the Judges of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justice of the High Courts. Similarly, the Chief Justices of the High Courts are competent to receive complaints against the conduct of Judges of their Courts. Administrative control over the members of the subordinate judiciary in the States vests with the concerned High Court. In view of this, the Central Government does not maintain records of such complaints and has no mechanism to monitor the action taken on the same.

With a view to enforce greater transparency and accountability in the functioning of the higher judiciary, the Government has moved the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill, which provides for a comprehensive mechanism for handling complaints made by citizens on grounds of alleged misbehavior and incapacity against judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts and for taking action against those found guilty after investigation. The Bill also lays down judicial standards and makes it incumbent on the Judges to declare their assets/liabilities.