

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:371
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009
BAN ON LOTTERIES
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to ban lottery in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.371 FOR 15-12-2009 REGARDING "BAN ON LOTTERIES"

(a) to (c): No, Madam. Although, on 23-12-1999, the Lotteries (Prohibition) Bill, 1999, which seeks to prohibit the organization, conduct and promotion of lotteries falling under Entry 40 of List-I – Union List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha, the Bill was referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Home Affairs for examination and report. The Committee in its report suggested that the Government may take up the issue of banning the lotteries at the political level and explore possibilities of evolving a larger consensus in the matter.

In a bid to evolve political consensus on the Lotteries (Prohibition) Bill, 1999, various efforts were made by the Ministry and finally the overwhelming view which emerged was that "the lotteries should not be prohibited, but there should be stronger and more effective regulation of lotteries".

Consequently, the Central Government decided to withdraw the Lotteries (Prohibition) Bill, 1999. The matter for withdrawal of the Bill was discussed in the Rajya Sabha on 24-11-2009, but the Motion to withdraw the Bill was deferred.