

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:42
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2014
CORRUPTION IN JUDICIARY
Adityanath Shri Yogi

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of rampant corruption in the judiciary;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the effective steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) and (b): 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 Judges of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justices of the High Courts. Similarly, the Chief Justices of the High Courts are competent to receive complaints against the conduct of High Court Judges. The complaints/ representations received are forwarded to the Chief Justice of India or to the concerned Chief Justice of High Court, as the case may be, for appropriate action. Administrative control over the members of the subordinate judiciary in the States vests with the concerned High Court. The Central Government has no mandate to look into such complaints or to monitor the action taken on the same.

(c) : To ensure greater accountability and transparency in the higher judiciary, a bill titled, "the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill", was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 01.12.2010. The Bill lays down Judicial Standards which are derived from the Restatement of Values in Judicial Life, 1997 and have the acceptance and approval of the Full Court of the Supreme Court. It makes it mandatory for Judges to declare their assets and liabilities as well as that of their spouses and dependent children. It also provides for a comprehensive mechanism for handling complaints made by citizens on alleged misbehaviour and incapacity against judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts and for taking action against those found guilty after investigation. However, the Bill has lapsed consequent to the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha. The matter is under further consideration of the Government.