

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3647
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2014
ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT
Singh Shri Bhola

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to abolish capital punishment in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Law Commission has circulated any consultation paper seeking suggestions /comments in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to free the domain of criminal justice administration of extrajudicial influences and ensure time-bound conviction and speedy delivery of justice?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU)

- (a) & (b): No Madam. At present, there is no proposal in this Ministry to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860 to abolish capital punishment in the country.
- (c) & (d): Yes Madam. The Law Commission of India has posted a Consultation Paper on Capital Punishment on its website in the month of May, 2014 seeking suggestions/comments on the issue.
- (e): Certain Sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure like sections 157, 167, 173, 309 and 468 are already in place for speedy trial and elimination of delays in investigation and trial proceedings. Moreover, amendments have been carried out in the Code of Criminal Procedure through the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2008 in sections 157, 167, 173 and 309 to ensure time-bound conviction and speedy delivery of justice. Amendment to section 309, for continuing the proceedings of trial on a day to day basis until all the witnesses in attendance have been examined has also been made through Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013.