GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1424 ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014 REPORT OF MADHAVA MENON COMMITTEE Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madhava Menon Committee has submitted its report on the criminal justice system;

(b) if so, the main features of the recommendations made by the said Committee;

(c) whether the Government has forwarded such recommenda- tions to the States for their comments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the suggestions received from the States in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Committee has recommended policy changes in criminal law and procedure, the institutions of police, prosecution, judiciary and prisons etc. to make the criminal justice faster, fairer and less expensive. Major recommendations of the Commi- ttee are as under:-

- (i) Empowering the victims and compensate the injury.
- (ii) Sentencing guidelines for purposive punishments.
- (iii) Re-classification of crimes and streamlining the procedure through rational classification of offences.
- (iv) Setting up of a Bureau of Criminal Justice Statistics, Research & Development.
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- (v) Setting up of a Board of Criminal Justice in the Union & States.
- (vi) Setting up of a National Authority to deal with crimes affecting National Security.
- (vii) A National strategy to reduce crime and finance infrastructure development.
- (viii) Criminal Justice Reforms in relation to advancements in science and technology.
- (ix) Affirmative action to safeguard interests of the weaker sections
- (c): Yes Madam.

(d): The comments of 19 States and 7 UTs have been received. Most of the States/UTs have welcomed the recommendations on the various reforms suggested by the Committee. However, the Departmental-related Parliame- ntary Standing Committee on Home Affairs while examining the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010 in its 146th Report has recomme- nded that there should be comprehensive review of the Criminal Justice System and introduction of composite draft legislation for revamping of the Criminal Justice System in the country instead of bringing piecemeal amendments.

In view of the recommendations of the Committee, the then Hon'ble Home Minister requested the Hon'ble Minister of Law & Justice to request the Law Commission of India to examine and give a comprehensive report covering all aspects of criminal laws so that comprehensive amendments can be made in various laws viz. IPC, Cr.P.C, the Evidence Act, etc. It was also requested that the Law Commission may also take into account the recommendations made by the Malimath Committee and Madhava Menon Committee and other Commissions/Committee in this regard.

The Law Commission of India vide its letter dated 13.08.2014 intimated this Ministry that it has undertaken the study on 'Compressive Reviews of Criminal Justice System' and is in the process of releasing a Consu- Itation Paper on the subject.