GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1667

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 13.02.2019

Corruption in Judiciary

1667. SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI:

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

- a) whether allegations of corruption on judges being involved in a medical admissions scam were levelled and if so, the details thereof,
- b) whether the Government has taken note of the allegations of rampant corruption in the judiciary;
- c) if so, the number of such complaints received during each of the last three years;
- d) the details of the mechanism being followed to deal with the complaints against Judges; and
- e) whether the Government proposes to take effective steps on judicial accountability issue and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (e): Complaints/representations alleging corruption in judiciary are received by the Government from time to time. In full Court meeting on 7 May, 1997, the Supreme Court of India adopted two Resolutions namely (i)

"The Restatement of Values of Judicial Life" which lays down certain judicial standards to be observed and followed by the Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts (ii) " In- house procedure" for taking suitable remedial action against judges who do not follow universally accepted values of Judicial life including those included in the Restatement of Values of Judicial Life.

The issue of checking corruption in the Higher Judiciary is to be addressed by the Higher Judiciary as it is an independent organ under the Indian Constitution. Accountability in higher judiciary is maintained through "in-house procedure". As per the "In-house procedure" Chief Justice of India is competent to receive complaints against the conduct of the 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 Chief Justice of the concerned High Court, as the case may be, for appropriate action. In so far as subordinate judiciary in the State is concerned, the administrative control over the members vests with the concerned High Court and State Government. The Central Government has no mandate to look into such complaints or to monitor the action taken on the same. As such, no data is maintained in this regard.
