

Status of Chairpersons of Tribunals

1148. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring uniformity in the retirement age, status, terms of office of Chairpersons/Presidents and Members of Tribunals and other statutory authorities; and

(b) if so, the status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal is under active consideration.

Release of undertrials

1149. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

(a) whether Government has formulated a plan to facilitate release of two lakh undertrials in the country;

(b) if so, whether Chief Justice of all the High Courts have been directed to identify those who are not involved in heinous crimes and can be released;

(c) if so, whether the State Governments have agreed to the decision of the Central Government to release undertrials; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) As part of the National Mission for Delivery of Justice and Legal Reforms, a Mission Mode Programme has been launched w.e.f. 26th January, 2010 with a view to reduce the number of cases of under-trials and to ease congestion in jails. The Chief Justices of all the High Courts have been addressed in the matter, emphasizing the need to implement the programme. The Chief Ministers of all the States have also been requested for their co-operation to make the Mission a success. The response received from the State Governments is very positive. As per the information available, following number of under-trials have already been released:

S.No.	Stats	No. of Prisoners released
1.	Punjab	164
2.	Haryana	136
3.	Chandigarh	2
4.	Jharkhand	443
5.	Delhi	45
6.	Maharashtra and Goa	466
7.	West Bengal	287
8.	Tamil Nadu	102