

#### **Plan for judicial reference**

1900. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan for judicial reference for reducing the cases pending in courts and introducing accountability of the judges and if so, the details thereof and by when it would be implemented; and

(b) what are the details of complaints received against the judges of High Courts and Supreme Court during the last three years and the action taken against each judge?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The Government has not formulated any plan for judicial reference for reducing the cases pending in courts. The Government has, however taken various steps to minimize pendency of cases in the courts. It is also proposed to introduce 'The Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill, 2010' in the current session of the Parliament. The provisions of the Bill will increase accountability of Judges of the higher judiciary and would also make the functioning of the higher judiciary more transparent thereby strengthening further the independence of the judiciary.

(b) As per the "in-house mechanism" of the higher judiciary, the 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 Court. Similarly, the Chief Justices of the High Courts are competent to receive complaints against the conduct of the Judges of their Courts. In view of this, the Central Government do not maintain records of such complaints and it has no mechanism to monitor the action taken on the same.

#### **High cost of Arbitration**

1901. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently expressed concern over the highly expensive and time consuming arbitration in the Country;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to formulate some strategies to ensure that arbitration in various courts are cleared within some specific period and also without any high spending; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to encourage Alternative Dispute Resolution and to develop India as a hub of international arbitration, the Government proposes to release Consultation Paper on the proposed amendments to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.