

Law Commission's recommendations regarding euthanasia

†29. MS.SUSHILA TIRIYA:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

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

(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended that the law needs to provide protection for the dying patients and if such patients refuse to receive their treatment, then the charge of attempt of suicide should not be levelled on them;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the suggestion of the Law Commission; and

(c) whether the proposal of the Law Commission has also been referred to the Ministry of Health to seek their opinion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) The Law Commission in its 196th Report on the subject of Medical Treatment to Terminally Ill Patients (Protection of Patients and Medical Practitioners) affirms that Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide are and shall continue to be penal offences. The report has not yet been laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The report is in the process of being laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Delay in disposal of cases

†30. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards a news report in which a main reason for delay in disposal of cases in High Courts has been described as non-availability of translation from Hindi to English in every case because the High Court rules do not permit adoption of Hindi; and

(b) if so, whether for the speedy disposal of large number of cases pending in High Courts, Government, propose to take any step to amend the High Court rules so that these cases may be disposed of in Hindi also?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.