

Funds for judicial infrastructure

†784. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an estimate of Rs. 7,077 crore has been submitted to Government by the Chief Justice of India for the improvement in basic structure of justice system in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government has taken certain decisions after considering this estimate; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) No such proposal has been submitted by the Chief Justice of India. However, an estimate of Rs. 7077 crore was received from various High Courts for development of infrastructure of district and subordinate courts. As per the information received so far, an amount of Rs. 10,343 crore is required for this purpose. Government has not taken any decision, in the matter.

Overhaul of legal education system

785. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Prime Minister has recently called for a major overhaul of the legal education system in the country to bring it in tune with the needs of the current socio-economic scenario;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has since contemplated any action on such observations made by the Prime Minister;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of any other steps Government proposes to take to promote legal reforms in the country?

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) and (c) After wide consultations among various groups and Universities, a report of the major recommendations was prepared and the following course of action has been decided:

- To establish four national level institutions at the regional level as Centres of Excellence focused on research and up-gradation of faculty skills - these may be called Institutes of Advanced Legal Studies and Research.

There will be a National Law University established in every state as a school of excellence.

- Each of the 913 existing law schools to be evaluated by an Empowered Committee and classified as per standards and needs for the purpose of upgrading such colleges and creating and providing opportunities to the students.
- Public Private Participation model for law schools with specialised focus to be encouraged.
- Autonomous colleges that will meet demanding accreditation standards to be encouraged.

(d) Government have embarked upon a National Mission for Delivery of Justice and Legal Reforms "Towards Timely Delivery of Justice to All". A Blueprint for the Judicial Reforms has been drawn which is available on the web-site of the Department of Justice (www.lawmin.nic.in). The aim is to reduce the pendency of the cases in the court from an average of 15 years at present to an average of 3 years.

Alternative dispute resolution system

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

(a) whether the Chief Justice of India has recently underlined the need for spreading a new settlement culture for the success of mediation as an alternative dispute resolution system;

(b) if so, whether in the absence of the settlement culture among litigants, the court cases are mounting; and

(c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to find out new strategies to dispose of court cases expeditiously?