

the Election Commission to issue necessary orders regulating registration and de-registration of political parties" has been included in the Background Paper on Electoral Reforms prepared by the Legislative Department. The details have been put on the website of Ministry of Law and Justice - www.lawmin.nic.in.

Election as source of corruption

3325. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Hindu dated 24 January, 2012 titled "Chief Election Commissioner sees elections as biggest source of corruption";

(b) if so, Government's response thereto; and

(c) the action Ministry is taking to prevent elections from being the biggest source of corruption?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Election Commission of India and the Central Government are seriously concerned about the growing influence of 'Money Power' in Parliamentary and Assembly Elections. The Election Commission held a meeting on 4th October, 2010, with all recognized National Political Parties to discuss issues related to use of Money Power etc. in elections. The Commission has taken several measures including opening of separate Division in the Commission to oversee election expenditure, appointment of Expenditure Observers and Assistant Expenditure Observers, Flying Squads and Static Surveillance Teams to keep vigil over movement of cash, liquor and other items during elections, Media Certifying and Monitoring Committee to watch media advertisements and paid news, Maintenance of Shadow Observation Register of each candidate, Video Surveillance Team to oversee major items of expenditure, opening of separate bank account by the candidate for the purpose of election expenses and involving of Income Tax Department to keep vigil over movement of cash. Considering the impact of the monitoring mechanism of Election Expenditure in the recently concluded Assembly elections, the Election Commission has decided to enforce the similar measures in all General Elections.

Setting up of IIDEM

3326. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Election Commission of India has proposed to set up an Indian International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIDEM);