

in garnering maximum financial benefit and have no respect for the constitutional ethos and values. In other words, while transferring or alienating the natural resources, the State is duty bound to adopt the method of auction by giving wide publicity so that all eligible persons can participate in the process.

2. In context of the above order the Government has filed a Special Reference No. 1 of 2012 under Article 143 (1) of the Constitution of India in the Supreme Court of India seeking clarification *inter-alia* on the following:

- Q.1. Whether the only permissible method for disposal of all natural resources across all sectors and in all circumstances is by the conduct of auctions?
- Q.2. Whether a broad proposition of law that only the route of auctions can be resorted to for disposal of natural resources does not run contrary to several judgments of the Supreme Court including those of Larger Benches?
- Q.3. Whether the enunciation of a broad principle, even though expressed as a matter of constitutional law, does not really amount to formulation of a policy and has the effect of unsettling policy decisions formulated and approaches taken by various successive governments over the years for valid considerations, including lack of public resources and the need to resort to innovative and different approaches for the development of various sectors of the economy?
- Q.4. What is the permissible scope for interference by courts with policy making by the Government including methods for disposal of natural resources?

The hearing in Special Reference has commenced on 10.07.2012 and has been concluded on 16.08.2012 and the judgment has been reserved.

Art show on happenings in India

2800. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has asked the Chinese Government to censor art show over certain happenings in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Chinese Government responded to India's request and removed the objectionable part of the video displayed in Beijing gallery; and

(d) if so, the details of outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) No.

(b) to (d) The Ullens Center for Contemporary Art (UCCA), a private art gallery in Beijing, China recently hosted a contemporary Indian art exhibition 'Indian Highway'. Some of the exhibits which cast aspersions on India's democracy and on our armed forces were found inappropriate. A request from the Embassy of India in Beijing to withdraw these inappropriate exhibits was acceded to by the private art gallery and as such the exhibits were removed.

Communication from Sarabhjit Singh

2801. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently received any communication from Sarabhjit Singh undergoing death sentence in Pakistan jail for ill treatment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (c) Government has seen communications from Shri Sarabhjit Singh regarding his ill treatment in Pakistan jail. In view of these reports, High Commission of India, Islamabad has approached the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan to provide special consular access to Shri Sarabhjit Singh at an early date.

Dowry case accused hiding abroad

†2802. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints, which are related to suits of dowry harassment cases wherein the prime accused are hiding in America or other countries, received by the Ministry;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.