

Independent recruitment mechanism for judges

3637. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering any proposal for independent recruitment mechanism for judges;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any report or proposal of recommendation is pending with Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) The appointment of Judges to High Courts and Supreme Court is based on a Memorandum of Procedure for Appointment of Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts prepared in 1998 pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998. Representations have been made by various agencies and expert bodies to review/change the present procedure of appointment of judges. Based on the suggestions received, there is a proposal to establish a broad based Judicial Appointments Commission. However, no decision has been taken by the Government so far.

Registered political parties

†3638. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of registered political parties in the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that many parties exist only on paper;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Election Commission of India can cancel the recognition of such parties; and
- (e) if not, whether there are possibilities of misuse of facilities being extended to the registered political parties by such parties?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.