

becomes natural and equal share holder of all the movable, immovable and parental property of husband following marriage;

(b) whether the cases like of divorce, dowry harassment, domestic violence and female foeticide in Goa are lower or higher in comparison to States of North India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof for last three years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such study has been conducted by the Central Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Use of Odia language in courts of Odisha

1034. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether both the judicial and administrative work in all the courts of Odisha is being conducted in English language;

(b) whether this practice has been resented to by the people of the State and they have asked for conducting all the above proceedings in Odia language in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof with an action plan in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) to (c) Article 348(1) of the Constitution of India provides that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court shall be in English language until Parliament by law otherwise provides.

Article 348(2) provides that the Governor of the State may, with the previous consent of the President, authorize the use of Hindi language or any other language used for any official purpose of the State, in the proceedings of the High Court having its principal seat in that State, provided that decrees, judgements or orders passed by such High Courts shall be in English.

No representation has been received from Odisha for conducting court proceedings in Odia language.

The Full Court of the Supreme Court considered the proposals for use of Hindi and regional languages in the High Courts in its meeting held on 11th October, 2012 and reiterated the earlier similar resolutions of the Full Court adopted in 1997 and 1999 to not accept the proposals. The Government has decided to abide by it.

Protection of women lawyers

1035. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued certain norms to protect women lawyers from sexual and other harassment in the courts in the country; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the above orders have since been implemented; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the women lawyers have asked for further additions/alterations in such instructions; and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sexual harassment of lawyers

1036. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are many reported cases in Supreme Court and High Courts of the country regarding senior lawyers sexually harassing women juniors or other women lawyers at the bar;

(b) if so, the details thereof during last three years and the action taken against such lawyers;

(c) whether there is no standing committee on gender justice of judges in Supreme Court and the High Courts to look into such cases; and

(d) if so, the response of Government thereto and the steps taken for setting up such committees?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) to (d)