

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)

The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Age of voting right**

1037. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Constitution of India provides for voting rights to Indian citizens from the time they are 18 years old;

(b) whether this mandate is largely frustrating due to the qualifying date having been prescribed as 1st of January of the year in which the electoral rolls are revised; and

(c) whether an amendment will be introduced immediately to correct this lacuna well before the Lok Sabha Elections 2014?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To have uniformity in the preparation or revision of electoral roll one qualifying date *i.e.* 1st January of every year has been prescribed under clause (b) of section 14 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. Therefore, it is not correct to say that the mandate is frustrating due to the qualifying date.

(c) Does not arise.

**Pending cases against juveniles**

1038. SHRI PANKAJ BORA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that around 5000 cases are pending against juveniles and some of them are languishing for over 12 years;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) whether Government is taking any steps for their rehabilitation, proper education and proper protection against abuses; if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) As per the Information furnished by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, the data of number of cases pending against juveniles and children languishing for years in Observation Homes in the States/UTs is not maintained centrally. Section