| 40 Written Answers to          | [RAJYA SABHA] |      | Starred Questions |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------|-------------------|
| 1                              | 2             | 3    | 4                 |
| 2008-09                        | 0.1           | 15.8 | 16196             |
| 2009-10                        | 0.8           | 14.6 | 17368             |
| 2010-11                        | 8.6           | 14.6 | 15964             |
| 2011-12                        | 5.0           | 14.4 | 14027             |
| Twelfth Plan (2012-17) average | ge 3.0        | 13.9 | 13754             |
| 2012-13                        | 1.4           | 13.9 | 13754             |
| 2013-14                        | 4.6           | 13.9 | not available     |

#Source: Central Statistics Office (CSO)

##Source: National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)

## Mechanism to check complaints against higher judiciary

\*419. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is no mechanism to deal with complaints against the higher judiciary, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (b) the corrective steps taken by Government to have complaints and scrutiny committees in higher judiciary to deal with such complaints?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) As per the established "in-house mechanism" for the higher judiciary, Chief Justice of India receives complaints against the conduct of Judges of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justice of the High Courts. Similarly, the Chief Justices of the High Courts receive complaints against the conduct of High Court Judges. In view of this, the Central Government does not maintain records of such complaints and has no mechanism to monitor the action taken on the same.

(b) With a view to enforce greater transparency and accountability in the functioning of the higher judiciary, the Government has moved the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill, which provides for a comprehensive mechanism for handling complaints made by citizens on grounds of alleged misbehavior and incapacity against judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts and for taking action against those found guilty after investigation. The Bill also lays down judicial standards and makes it incumbent on the Judges to declare their assets/liabilities.