

inclusion of necessary safeguards for protection of rights of consumers of technology based marketing like E-commerce, telemarketing etc.

Appointment of retired SC judges

*275.SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether article 124 (7) of the Constitution prohibits a retired Supreme Court judge to plead or act in any court or before any authority within the country;
- (b) whether Parliament is deemed to be an authority within the meaning of article 124 (7) read with article 12, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the practice of appointing retired SC judges in various political capacities is morally correct, and whether it poses serious danger to judicial independence, as large number of Government cases are pending in SC, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) Article 124 (7) of the Constitution of India restricts retired Supreme Court judges to plead or act in any Court or before authority within the territory of India.

(b) The doctrine of separation of powers enshrined in the Constitution of India implies specific roles to be assigned to the executive, the legislature and the judiciary. All three pillars of democracy constitute the State as defined in Article 12 of the Constitution of India.

(c) The Constitutional provisions for appointments to the posts of Governor, Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Chief Vigilance Commissioner etc. by the Central Government do not exclude retired judges from amongst those eligible for such appointments. Various legislations, enacted by Parliament, have provisions for appointment of retired judges of the Supreme Court/High Court in Tribunals, Commissions and other Authorities.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Expansion in area of operation of Mother Dairy

2191.SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Mother Dairy is considering to expand its area of operation across the country, if so, the details thereof; and