CBI has registered a regular case against him under certain Sections of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, and the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. The matter is now before the CBI Court.

Pending court cases

3091.SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases pending in courts in the country which are more than five years old;

(b) whether Government is going to propose a policy initiative to do away with long vacations in the courts of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (c) The data on pendency of cases is maintained by the Supreme Court and High Courts. As per the information made available by Supreme Court of India, 11,861 cases were pending for more than five years as on 10.12.2014 in Supreme Court. 16.83 lakh cases were pending for more than five years as on 31.12.2013 in various High Courts. In District and Subordinate Courts, 59.80 lakh cases were pending for more than five years as on 31.12.2013.

Holidays in Supreme Court and High Courts are regulated by the respective Courts. Holidays in subordinate courts are regulated by the respective High Courts. The Supreme Court has notified the Supreme Court Rules, 2013 on 27th May, 2014 wherein, *inter-alia*, it is provided that the period of summer vacation shall not exceed seven weeks. It is further provided that the length of the summer vacation and the number of holidays for the Court and the offices of the Court shall be such as may be fixed by the Chief Justice and notified in the official Gazette so as not to exceed one hundred and three days, excluding Sundays not falling in the vacation and during holidays.

Implementation of 197th Report of Law Commission

3092.SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of the 197th Report of the Law Commission of India on the Appointment of Public Prosecutors, which was submitted to Government on 31st July, 2006;

(b) whether the recommendations made therein have been accepted or approved in-principle by Government, if so, the details of the recommendations which have been accepted; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that the Law Commission in its 197th Report on "Public Prosecutor's Appointment" has recommended for amendment in section 24 of Cr. P.C., as the Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure are in the Concurrent List to the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India and are implemented by the States, therefore, the Report has been referred to the State Governments/UT Administrations for their comments. The Comments of some of the State Governments are still awaited. A decision for accepting the recommendations or otherwise will be taken after receipt of the comments from all the State Governments.

Appointment of Public Prosecutors

3093.SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several States have not constituted a regular Cadre of Prosecuting Officers as envisaged under Section 24 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973; and

(b) if so, the names of the States along with a description of their policies for appointment of Public Prosecutors?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

New procedure of self attestation of documents

3094.SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to do away with the necessity of filing affidavits/documents from a Gazetted Officer or a Notary for a Government related work and instead has adopted the new simplified procedure of self attestation of documents;

(b) if so, whether Government has asked State Governments to promote and adopt the new procedure; and