

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) The field relating to withdrawal of cases by the Central Government and the State Governments from various courts has been occupied by statutory provisions contained in various statutes including Sections 257 and 321 of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and Order XXIII Rule 1 of Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. It is unlikely that withdrawal is done with partiality because the whole field of conducting cases including withdrawal is occupied by express statutory provisions. Besides, no withdrawal of criminal and civil case is possible without the leave of the court.

(b) and (c) No administrative guidelines have been framed by the Supreme Court for the withdrawal of cases by the Central and State Governments from various courts. As regards the Union Government, some Ministries/Departments have framed their internal guidelines for withdrawal of cases filed by them under Acts administered by them. Such withdrawal is also permitted on the applicant fulfilling certain conditions like payment of compounding fee etc. The legal position on the subject is summarized by the Supreme Court in the case of *Sheo Nandan Paswan Vs. State of Bihar and ors.* (AIR 1987 SC 877) (para44) wherein it is laid down that the withdrawal from prosecution is an executive function which vests in the Public Prosecutor and he may not seek instructions or guidance from outside to exercise his/her executive discretion. As there are sufficient provisions in various statutes in respect of withdrawal of cases with the leave of the court, the Government does not propose to frame any further guidelines on the subject.

Shatabdi trains in Jharkhand

*54. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to run Shatabdi trains in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, whether Government is contemplating to run Shatabdi trains between Dhanbad-Kolkata and Jamshedpur-Kolkata; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) Indian Railways do not introduce new trains on State-wise basis as railway network and train operations run across State boundaries. However, presently, Dhanbad is connected to Kolkata by a Shatabdi service viz. 12019/12020 Howrah-Ranchi Shatabdi Express (6 days a week). At present, Dhanbad and Tatanagar (Jamshedpur) are very well connected by train services and there is no proposal to run a Shatabdi Express train between

Dhanbad-Kolkata and that between Tatanagar (Jamshedpur)-Kolkata due to operational and resource constraints.

Recommendation on scope of NFSA

† 55. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to restructure and improve the working of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) Government had constituted a Committee which has suggested that the scope of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) be limited in short period and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government proposes to implement the suggestion of the Committee and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Government had appointed a High Level Committee (HLC) under the Chairmanship of Shri Shanta Kumar, M.P. to recommend for restructuring of FCI after considering various aspects of present structure and functional areas of organizations and HLC has submitted its report on 21.1.2015. As regards National Food Security Act (NFSA), HLC has mainly recommended:-

- (i) to defer the implementation of NFSA in States that have not done end to end computerization; have not put the list of beneficiaries online for anyone to verify, and have not set up vigilance committees to check pilferage form Public Distribution System (PDS).
- (ii) to reduce coverage from 67 per cent of population to 40 per cent and to raise allocation to priority households from 5 kg to 7 kg per person per month.
- (iii) to link the price of foodgrains for priority households other than Antyodaya households to Minimum Support Price (MSP), say 50 per cent of MSP.
- (iv) to gradually introduce cash transfers in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), starting with large cities with more than 1 million population; extending it to grain surplus States, and then giving option to deficit States to opt for cash or physical grain distribution.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.