

State Governments. Accordingly, letters dated 22nd November, 2014 have been issued to all Central Ministries/Departments and to the Chief Secretaries of all State Governments for their comments/views on enactments which will be taken-up for repeal by Parliament. Information in this regard is awaited from the Ministries/Departments of the Central Government as well as State Governments. None of the aforesaid enactments were included either in the Repealing and Amending Bill, 2014 or in the Repealing and Amending (Second) Bill, 2014.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The recommendation made by the Select Committee for inclusion of an automatic repeal clause has been examined by the Government with reference to the practice followed in United Kingdom and Australia. In the United Kingdom, all Appropriation Acts usually contain a repealing provision which specifically repeal older Appropriation Acts. In Australia, there is a comprehensive law, namely, the Legislation Act, 2001 which contains 302 sections and other Annexures which, *inter-alia*, deals with the "life cycle" of legislation, improving its structure and content and simplifying its provisions where practicable. Section 89 of the said Act deals with automatic repeal of certain laws and provisions and in its sub-section (2) it says that an Appropriation Act is automatically repealed on the last day of the financial year for which it makes appropriation. In brief, the Legislation Act, 2001 is a comprehensive legislation which deals with various aspects of legislation including interpretation of legislation. Accordingly, it has been decided to follow the repeal mechanism in vogue in United Kingdom to systematically repeal Appropriation Acts (on whose Appropriation Acts we model our own) usually two sessions in arrears. This will be in consonance with the recommendations of the Select Committee to have a repeal clause in the Appropriation Acts. However, such clause shall be provided when the enactment of the Appropriation Act, 2016 is undertaken where under the Appropriation Acts of 2013 shall be repealed.

#### **Setting up of Fast Track Courts**

203. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has sent a proposal to 14th Finance Commission for a grant of ₹ 4150 crore for setting up of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) in the country, if so, the details of the proposal;

(b) whether the Commission which was to submit its Report in October, 2014, has submitted the same; and

(c) if so, the recommendations made by the Commission with regard to FTCs?

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

(a) A proposal for establishing 1800 Fast Track Courts (FTCs) for a period of 5

years at a cost of ₹ 4144 crore was made to the 14th Finance Commission, for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants affected with HIV AIDS and other terminal ailments; and civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than five years.

(b) and (c) The Commission, in its report, has endorsed the proposal and urged State Governments to use additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements.

#### **Disposal of law suits involving senior citizens**

204. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of the law suits relating to senior citizens pending in various lower and higher courts in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the steps taken by Government to expedite such cases;

(c) whether there is any provision which gives priority to the disposal of law suits involving senior citizens in the lower and higher courts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps being taken by Government to bring such a provision in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):  
(a) to (d) Record of law suits involving Senior Citizens is not maintained. In the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in New Delhi on 7th April, 2013, it has been resolved that the State Governments shall, in consultation with the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts, take necessary steps to establish suitable number of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) relating to offences against women, children, differently abled persons, senior citizens and marginalized sections of the society, and provide adequate funds for the purpose of creating and continuing them. Government has requested the State Governments and the Chief Justices of the High Courts to implement this decision.

The 14th Finance Commission has endorsed the proposal to strengthen the judicial system in States which includes, *inter-alia*, establishing 1800 FTCs for a period of five years for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants affected with HIV AIDS and other terminal ailments; and civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than five years at a cost of ₹ 4144 crore. The 14th Finance Commission has urged State Governments to use additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements.