

Sl. No.	High Court	Principal Seat	Jurisdiction
17.	Patna	Patna	Bihar
18.	Punjab and Haryana	Chandigarh	Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh
19.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Rajasthan
20.	Sikkim	Gangtok	Sikkim
21.	Uttarakhand	Nainital	Uttarakhand
22.	Manipur	Imphal	Manipur
23.	Meghalaya	Shillong	Meghalaya
24.	Tripura	Agartala	Tripura

Report of Law Commission on Repeal of obsolete laws

1376. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the review and repeal of obsolete laws, that have outlived their relevance long ago, was one of the agenda before 2014, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Law Commission has submitted its report in this regard to Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government thereon?

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

(a) Yes sir. Review of all laws, including those enacted during the British era, with a view to bring them in harmony with the current economic, social and political situation in the country, is a continuous process. This task is undertaken by the different nodal Ministries/ Departments of the Central Government administering their respective laws and generally by the Law Commission of India. Further, the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension had already set up a Committee on Review of Administrative Laws under the chairmanship of Shri P.C. Jain on 8th May, 1998, with the objective of examining the need of amendments in and repeal of laws, among others. The said Committee submitted its report to the Government on 30th September, 1998 and the salient recommendations of the Committee included, among others, amendment of laws/rules, review of Acts of critical importance and repeal of dysfunctional / irrelevant laws. The terms of reference of the 19th Law Commission, constituted in 2009, also included 'Review of Obsolete laws', but it has not given any report on the repeal of obsolete laws.

(b) and (c) The Twentieth Law Commission has submitted Report Nos. 248, 249, 250 and 251 in 2014 on “Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal”, in which it recommended for repeal of 72, 113, 74 and 30 obsolete Acts respectively, including some State laws. The said Reports are available on the website of the Law Commission at <http://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/>. The Legislative Department has examined the said Reports and letters have been issued to Ministries/Departments and the State Governments seeking their comments and also asking the concerned State Governments to take necessary action for repeal of certain laws.

Recently, two Acts have been enacted i.e. the Repealing and Amending Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) and the Repealing and Amending (Second) Act, 2015 (19 of 2015) for repealing 35 and 90 obsolete Acts respectively. The Schedule to the Repealing and Amending Acts contains the details of the Acts so repealed. The Appropriation Acts (Repeal) Bill, 2015 was introduced in Lok Sabha on 24th April, 2015 and passed by Lok Sabha on 11th May, 2015 to repeal 758 Appropriation Acts [including Appropriation (Railways) Acts] enacted by Parliament during the period 1950 to 2012, which include 111 State Appropriation Acts enacted by Parliament during 1950 to 1976 when the States were under the President’s Rule. The Repealing and Amending (Fourth) Bill, 2015 has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 27th July, 2015 to repeal 295 Acts.

Status of repeal of obsolete law

1377. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of progress made in the ongoing review and repeal of outdated/obsolete laws; and

(b) whether any committee has been set up for the purpose by Government recently, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) Recently, two Acts have been enacted i.e. the Repealing and Amending Act, 2015 (17 of 2015) and the Repealing and Amending (Second) Act, 2015 (19 of 2015) for repealing 35 and 90 obsolete Acts respectively. The Schedule to the said Repealing and Amending Acts contains the details of the Acts so repealed. The Appropriation Acts (Repeal) Bill, 2015 was introduced in Lok Sabha on 24th April, 2015 and passed by Lok Sabha on 11th May, 2015 to repeal 758 Appropriation Acts [including Appropriation (Railways) Acts] enacted by Parliament during the period 1950 to 2012, which include 111 State Appropriation Acts enacted by Parliament during 1950 to 1976 when the States were under the President’s Rule. The Repealing and Amending (Fourth) Bill, 2015 has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 27th July, 2015 to repeal 295 Acts.

(b) A Two-member Committee was constituted on 1st September, 2014 for review