

- (2) the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 (30 of 1956);
- (3) the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956 (78 of 1956);
- (4) the Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956 (32 of 1956);

However, the Anand Marriage Act, 1909 (7 of 1909) has been enacted to remove doubts as to the validity of the marriage ceremony common among Sikhs called Anand;

(ii) the Parsis are governed by the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act, 1936 (3 of 1936);

(iii) the Christians are governed by -

- (1) the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872 (15 of 1872);
- (2) the Divorce Act, 1869 (4 of 1869);

(iv) the Muslims are governed by -

- (1) the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1937 (26 of 1937);
- (2) the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights) on Divorce Act, 1986 (25 of 1986);
- (3) the Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act, 1939 (8 of 1939).

In addition to the above, the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890 (8 of 1890), the Indian Succession Act, 1925 (39 of 1925) and the Special Marriage Act, 1954 (43 of 1954) are applicable to all in the manner provided therein.

(b) Yes, Sir. In view of the importance of the subject matter and sensitivity involved, and it requiring in-depth study of the provisions of various personal laws governing different communities, the Law Commission of India has been requested for detailed and exhaustive examination of various issues relating to Uniform Civil Code by undertaking wider consultations with all stakeholders and to make recommendations thereof.

(c) The Law Commission has not been given any specific time-frame to submit its report.

#### **Separate High Courts for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**

1438. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the crisis over division of High Court existing in Telangana, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons for Centre not interfering into the logjam of division of High Court between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the reasons and hindrances being faced in the matter; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to resolve the dispute and establish separate High Courts in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, provides for setting up of a separate High Court for the State of Andhra Pradesh. The Act also provides that once separate High Court for the State of Andhra Pradesh is established, the existing High Court will go to the State of Telangana. Till such time the existing High Court *i.e.* the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad will serve as common High Court for the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

To enable the creation of separate High Court for the State of Andhra Pradesh, all necessary infrastructures such as Court buildings, quarters for the Judges and officials/ staff of the Court has to be created by the State Government in consultation with the High Court of judicature at Hyderabad. The Central Government had requested the Chief Justice of the High Court and the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to take all the necessary steps towards the creation of separate High Court for the State of Andhra Pradesh.

In the meantime there are Review Petitions pending in the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh and the matter is *sub-judice*.

#### **Vacant posts of Judges**

1439. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total sanctioned posts of Judges in the 24 High Courts of the country;

(b) the number of posts of Judges lying vacant in each of those High Courts at present, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not filling up those vacancies; and

(d) by when Government proposes to fill up all the vacancies in High Courts?