

(b) whether the Ministry would consider to grant validity of Voter I-Cards to Aadhaar number itself in place of EVM machines which would eliminate fake voters and make casting of bogus voting impossible; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. No such decision has been taken.

(c) Does not arise.

Arrests made under Section 66A of the Information Technology Act, 2000

4599. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN:

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the police has arrested persons under the erstwhile Section 66A of the Information Technology Act, if so, the details of the number of arrests made since 2015, State-wise;

(b) whether there have been instances where the police forces are unaware of binding judgements of the Courts in the country, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has taken any measures to ensure that judgements and laws reach the police stations, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) Police and public order are State subjects and prevention, detection, investigation of crime are primarily the responsibility of states. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) collects and maintains statistical data of police recorded cognisable crimes from States / Union Territories. The Bureau had earlier collected aggregated statistical data of persons arrested under sections 66 and 66A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 collectively. A Division Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, in the case of Shreya Singhal Vs. Union of India *vide* order dated 24th March, 2015, struck down section 66A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 terming it as unconstitutional and violative of Article 19(1) (a) of the Constitution of India. Accordingly, the data related to infringement of section 66A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 is not collected by the National Crime Records Bureau from 2016 onwards.

(c) The judgments of the Supreme Court are available on the website of the Supreme Court while the judgments of High Courts are available on the websites of the High Court concerned. The National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) for District and Subordinate Courts provides information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of 16,089 computerized district and subordinate courts of the country. The portal provides online information of more than 6 crore orders/judgments.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Making delivery of justice fast and cost-effective

†4600. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken various steps to make justice delivery system fast and cost-effective in the country during the last four years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether desired results of those steps are being achieved; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) The Central Government has taken several steps to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary. The Government has set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms to achieve this objective. The Mission has adopted a coordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration through various strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure for courts, leveraging information, communication and technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, and focus on human resource development.

(c) and (d) The major achievements during the last four years are as follows:—

- (i) **Improving infrastructure for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts:** As on date, ₹ 6,100 crore has been released since the inception of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in 1993-94. Out of this, ₹2,655 crore (43.52% of the total amount released till date) has been released to the States and UTs since April, 2014. The number of court halls has increased from 15,818 as on

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.