

The Group has held a few meetings to discuss the matter. However, Shri Jairam Ramesh, the Co-ordinator of the Informal Group met me and expressed certain logistic problems being faced by the Group being an informal one. I have considered the matter and decided to form an *Ad hoc* Committee with the same composition. Shri Jairam Ramesh will be the Chairman of that *Ad hoc* Committee. The Terms of Reference of the *Ad hoc* Committee will be as under: - To study the alarming issue of pornography on the social media and its effect on children and society as a whole, to hold comprehensive discussion on the subject with all the concerned; submit a Report within one month from today. It will not be extended under any circumstances. Rules relating to Select Committee on Bills shall apply to this *Ad hoc* Committee also. Please take note of that.

Now, Question Hour. Today, we will have Shri Tiruchi Siva to preside over the House and deal with Question Hour.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mobile application to read Supreme Court Judgments

*256. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that a new mobile application to read the Supreme Court judgements in various languages is available;
- (b) whether Government proposes to include Nepali language in the said application to read the Supreme Court judgements; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Supreme Court has informed that Supreme Court Vidhik Anuvaad Software (SUVAS), a machine learning tool trained by Artificial Intelligence to be used for translating Supreme Court Judgments into vernacular languages has been introduced on 26.11.2019.

The software SUVAS is for translation of Supreme Court judgments into nine vernacular languages which are: Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Odiya, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. As on date, no development work has been carried out to translate Supreme Court Judgments into Nepali language using SUVAS.

At present, judgments in nine vernacular languages are being translated and uploaded on the website of the Supreme Court of India. The nine languages are: Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Odiya, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. The translation of judgments relates to cases arising under the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India in relation to the following subject categories:

1. Labour matters;
2. Rent Act matters;
3. Land Acquisition and Requisition matters;
4. Service matters;
5. Compensation matters;
6. Criminal matters;
7. Family Law matters;
8. Ordinary Civil matters
9. Personal Law matters;
10. Religious and Charitable Endowments matters;
11. Simple money and Mortgage matters;
12. Eviction under the Public Premises (Eviction) Act matters;
13. Land Laws and Agriculture Tenancies; and
14. Matters relating to Consumer Protection.

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA, *in the Chair*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): It is my maiden Question Hour and I solicit your cooperation. Question No. 256; Shrimati Shanta Chhetri.

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Sir, it is a fact that Judges cannot remember all the orders they pass each day. Therefore, my first question is, Would the Ministry acknowledge this fact and introduce courtroom recording of proceedings which can serve as reference for Judges, clients and in higher courts of appeal and create greater transparency and speed up Justice system process?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I think, the distinguished Member would recall that the question relates to translation of Judgements in local languages including in Nepali language. The Supreme Court has developed a very good technology software whereby nine languages can instantly be translated of the Supreme Court Judgements which includes, I would like to place it in the House, hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir, Assamese, Bengali, Hindi,

Kannada, Marathi, Odiya, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. The Judgements can be simultaneously translated in 14 items of labour law, rent matters, land acquisition, service matters and criminal matters, etc., etc. As regards the training of Judges and reference point is concerned, the hon. Judges both in the Supreme Court and various High Courts have rich library, past precedents and reported Judgements to guide them based upon which they take decisions.

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Sir, my second supplementary is, it is no secret that India is in deep unemployment crisis and employing the already employed is a mockery on the unemployed. Therefore, my second question is; would the Ministry consider rather than appointing retired Judges from High Courts and Supreme Court in Tribunals, conducting competitive examination on the lines of Civil Services to fill up those posts?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Question, please.

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Sir, which would create job opportunities and greater transparency and maintain independence of Tribunals.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, there is no proposal to appoint retired Judges. But as far as judiciary is concerned, both on the judicial side of Judges and on the administrative side of staff/officers, recruitment is done in various High Courts, District Courts and Supreme Court. I can only say that as far as her emphasis on more induction of talent is concerned, we are proposing to have an

all-India Judicial Service, which I have shared with this House. As India has IAS, IPS, Indian Revenue Service, it is high time we had a proper all-India Judicial Service conducted at national level by somebody like the UPSC, obviously, under the Supreme Court control, where we can induct the best talent, having all India posting and most importantly, giving reservation to SC/ST and other marginalised communities so that their talent is also used ultimately in the judiciary.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, this. There are whether the judgements which are given by the hon. Supreme Court which are being translated or otherwise, and by various High Courts. Would the Government create some website on its own, where all these judgements are posted so that not only litigants, but the entire public can get free access to these judgements whenever they want, instead of going to various libraries or other paid sites?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, as I have said earlier, SUVAS, Supreme Court Vidhik Anuvaad Software has been developed. In this development, I must place on record that my NIC has played a crucial role. IIT, Patna has also come with a lot of innovative ideas. Mr. Nandan Nilekani has also contributed. Therefore, it has become a very wonderful platform, where, by the application of artificial intelligence, simultaneous translation is immediately available in the nine languages, which will be further extended. As far as the specific query of Shri Satish Chandra Misra is concerned, if you kindly have a look at paragraph 3 of my reply, these are translated and uploaded on the website of the Supreme Court of India. They are already available. But I do take his point that all the other High Courts also need to follow it. My view is very clear and I want to share my view before this hon. House. The legal profession is important, so is judiciary, and I am very clear that in the judicial process, people from all communities, whose background is not of big, big lawyers' family, also must come, involve and participate. All this is a part of that process, whereby the common people, the lawyers coming from simple family also come to have a stake in the process.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: What about the free website?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: There is already the Supreme Court website. That is all.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: For the various High Courts. ...*(Interruptions)*... There are a lot of contradictions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: I will examine it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... No interruptions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय विधि मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहूँगा कि सर्वोच्च न्यायालय में इन 14 categories में और 9 भाषाओं में अनुवाद हुआ है। लेकिन ये जो 14 categories हैं, इनमें सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के निर्णयों से सम्बन्धित जो महत्वपूर्ण category है, वह है Public Interest Litigation, जनहित याचिका। उसके अनुवाद की कहीं व्यवस्था नहीं है। क्या इन 14 categories में भविष्य में उसको भी शामिल किया जाएगा, क्योंकि जनता से सम्बन्धित तो वे ही विषय हैं।

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, अनुभवी सांसद, माननीय भूपेन्द्र यादव जी की यह जो सलाह है, यह बहुत ही प्रासंगिक सलाह है। मैंने इसको नोट किया है और मैं अपने जस्टिस विभाग को यह निर्देश दूँगा कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट से संवाद करके इसका रास्ता निकाला जाए। मुझे लगता है कि जिस तरह से PIL बढ़ रहे हैं, हम उनका सम्मान करते हैं, लेकिन PIL का दुरुपयोग भी हो रहा है। इसलिए निर्णय आने चाहिए, यह जरूरी है।

श्रीमती रूपा गांगुली: माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, ई-कोर्ट सिस्टम ने आज इस देश में साधारण जनता के लिए, एक individual के लिए भी बहुत सी समस्याओं को हल कर दिया है, आसान कर दिया है। बहुत से प्रदेशों में, जैसे पश्चिमी बंगाल में बहुत सारे लोअर कोर्ट्स अपने किसी भी केस को update करते ही नहीं हैं। मंत्री महोदय, ऐसे cases के updations कितने और कहाँ हुए हैं, क्या हमें इसकी कुछ रिपोर्ट मिल सकती है?

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, देश के लगभग 16,000 कोर्ट्स को हम लोगों ने ई-कोर्ट्स बनाया है, campuses में। जहाँ तक पश्चिमी बंगाल का सवाल है, मैं माननीय सदस्या की चिंता को समझता हूँ। मैं इसकी जानकारी प्राप्त करके माननीय सदस्या को इसके तथ्य बता दूँगा।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Question No. 257.

Slowdown of GDP growth rate

*257. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state: