

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 21.04.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**POLICE REFORMS .**

2829

Shri Shyamal Chakraborty

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) what steps Government proposes to crush the unholy nexus between police and the criminals;
- (b) whether Government is considering for police reforms so that police become people friendly; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a)to (c):Police is a State subject and therefore, the subject matter of the question broadly falls within the purview of State Governments. The Supreme Court has also highlighted the need for insulation of investigating agencies against extraneous influences, in W.P (C) 340-343 of 1993, Vineet Narain & Others Vs UOI & Others. Directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the above case have been conveyed to the State Governments for implementation.

In another case in WP (C) No. 310/96-Prakash Singh and others Versus Union of India and Others, the Supreme Court passed several directions to States/Union Territories on police reforms which inter alia, included a direction on setting up of a police complaint authority both at State as well as District level to look into the complaints against the police officers. The compliance of these directions is being monitored by Justice Thomas Commission appointed by the Supreme Court.

Notwithstanding above position, the Govt. is also concerned about improving the image of the police force and its accountability to the rule of law. Government has taken an initiative to set up a Review Committee on police reforms which has made several recommendations for making the police efficient, responsive and courteous. Emphasis is being placed on better standards of recruitment and training. Measures have been recommended for making the police professional and answerable to law, but responsive and courteous to citizens.

Ministry of Home Affairs also constituted the Soli Sorabjee Committee to draft a New Police Act to replace the Police Act of 1861. The draft Model Police Act submitted by the committee was sent to all States/UTs for consideration and appropriate action. Draft Model Police Act provides for well defined duties of the police, the role of Superintendence of the State Governments over the police, responsiveness & sensitivity of the police towards public especially the weaker & vulnerable Sections and accountability to the rule of law.