

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE**

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO07.03.2011

ANSWERED ON

AMENDMENTS IN REPRESENTATION OF PEOPLE ACT

1176

SHRI MOHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of COALLAW & JUSTICE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government proposes to make amendments in the Representation of People Act;
- (b) whether Government is taking any concrete step to make election procedure economical and free of shortcomings and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any concrete measure is being considered upon to make the election process free from the clutches of rich men and muscle men; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

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

Statement referred to in replies to parts (a) to (d) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No.1176 for answer on the 7th March, 2011

(a) to (d): With a view to carrying out comprehensive electoral reforms, a Core-Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Vivek K. Tankha, Additional Solicitor General, on 1st October, 2010. The terms of reference of the Core-Committee inter alia include examination of the current issues in our election system in consultation with the stakeholders and suggest measures on the following issues:-

(i) Criminalisation of Politics

(ii) Funding of Elections

(iii) Conduct and Better Management of Elections

(iv) Regulation of Political Parties

(v) Audit and Finances of Political Parties

(vi) Review of Anti-Defection Law

The Legislative Department with co-sponsorship of the Election Commission of India conducted six regional consultations at Bhopal, Kolkata, Mumbai, Lucknow, Chandigarh and Bengaluru on the 12th December, 2010, 9th 16th, 30th January, 5th and 13th February, 2011 respectively, wherein the stakeholders have been consulted, who inter-alia included leaders and workers of the political parties, legislators, legal luminaries, representatives of NGOs, eminent persons, civil servants (serving and retired), students etc. and views have been gathered. A National Consultation is also scheduled to be held shortly at New Delhi. On the basis of the inputs received on as may be received in all these consultations, legislative process as may be considered necessary will be initiated by the Government in due course.