GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1058#

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, 15TH DECEMBER 2022

SIMULTANEOUS ELECTIONS OF LOK SABHA AND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES

1058# Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

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

- (a) whether Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assembly elections were used to be held simultaneously for some years after independence, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of the concept behind Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assembly elections being held together and the details of the likely benefits to the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

- (a): General Elections to the House of People (Lok Sabha) and all State Legislative Assemblies were held simultaneously in 1951-52, 1957, 1962 and 1967. However, due to the premature dissolution of some Legislative Assemblies in 1968 and 1969, the cycle got disrupted.
- (b): The need for simultaneous election to Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies has been felt as elections have become big budget affair and expensive. The Law Commission of India in its 170th Report on Reform on Electoral Laws has suggested

simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Assemblies for the sake of stability in governance. Simultaneous elections would result in huge saving to the public exchequer, avoidance of replication of effort on part of administrative and law and order machinery in holding repeated elections and bring considerable savings to political parties and candidates in their election campaigns. It would also curb the adverse effect/schemes due to prolonged enforcement of Model Code of Conduct for the asynchronous Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections (including bye-election).
