

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.121
ANSWERED ON 02/02/2023**

EVALUATION STUDY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

121. SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA:

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

- (a) whether Government had done any evaluation study of criminal justice system during the past five years to take affirmative steps for its reformation; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) & (b): The Department-related Parliamentary standing Committee on Home Affairs, in its 146th Report dated 23.06.2010, had recommended that there is a need for a comprehensive review of the Criminal Justice System of the country. Earlier the Parliamentary Standing Committee in its 111th and 128th Reports had also stressed upon the need to reform and rationalize the criminal law of the country by introducing a comprehensive legislation in Parliament rather than bringing about piecemeal amendments.

The need to re-visit the Criminal Laws from time to time cannot be over emphasized. However, amendments in criminal laws is a continuous process which involves wider consultations with all stakeholders and examination of Law

Commission's Reports, various Courts Judgements, various Committees reports on the subject. Meanwhile, the Government has brought out Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018, *inter alia*, amending the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO) providing for increased minimum punishment for the offence of rape and gang rape of women and minor girls. In case of rape and gang rape of women below 12 years of age, the minimum punishment of twenty years extendable of life imprisonment or death has been prescribed.

A comprehensive review of criminal laws viz. Indian Penal Code (IPC), Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) and Indian Evidence Act is an ongoing process for bringing out further comprehensive legislation by taking into account the suggestions of all stakeholders.
