

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1397
ANSWERED ON 11/12/2025

PRE-LEGISLATIVE CONSULTATIONS

1397 # Shri Madan Rathore:

Shri Manan Kumar Mishra:

Shri Sujeet Kumar:

Will the Minister of *Law and Justice* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently conducted an evaluation of effectiveness of the Pre-Legislative Consultation Policy, 2014 and if so, the details of its compliance by Ministries/Departments during the last three years;
- (b) whether Government proposes to strengthen the Legislative Impact Assessment framework to make social, economic, environmental and institutional impact assessment mandatory for all major legislative proposals;
- (c) if so, the details of steps being considered in this regard; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to make pre-legislative consultations and legislative impact assessment statutorily mandatory to ensure uniformity across all Ministries and if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (d): No such evaluation of effectiveness of the Pre-legislative Consultation Policy, 2014 has been conducted and no record relating to compliance of Pre-legislative Consultation by Ministries is maintained.

As per chapter 9 of the Manual of Parliamentary Procedure, it is provided that the concerned Ministry/Department has to formulate the legislative proposals in consultation with all

the interests and authorities concerned, including holding discussions on the necessity for the proposed legislation and on all matter of substance to be embodied therein.

Further, Pre-legislative Consultation Policy was formulated by the Committee of Secretaries under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary in the meeting held on 10th January, 2014. In order to give effect to the decision of that Committee, Legislative Department has circulated the said Policy to all Ministries/Departments for strict adherence and compliance thereof.

There is no proposal of the Government to make the Pre-legislative consultations and the Legislative Impact Assessment mandatory for all major legislative proposals. Under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, each Ministry/ Department has been allocated subject matters on which that Ministry/ Department initiates, processes and implements legislative proposals and also studies social, economic, environmental and institutional impact of such laws, post their enactment.

The Ministry/Department concerned with the subject matter initiates pre-legislative consultations, holds deliberations with the public and all stakeholders and on that basis, finalises its legislative policy. After inter-ministerial consultations and finalisation of the legislative policy, the Bill is drafted and introduced in Parliament.

The Ministry/Department concerned with the subject matter carries out the post-legislative scrutiny of the legislation on the basis of inputs, suggestions and feedback received from the public, experts and other stakeholders; takes appropriate decision for modifications, if any.

Further, as part of Government initiative to bring reforms in the legal system, the Law Commission of India has also been mandated to review and suggest reforms in the laws of the country. As per notification dated 02.09.2024, the Twenty-third Law Commission of India was constituted with the mandate, *inter-alia* to, -

- (i) identify laws which are no longer needed or relevant and can be immediately repealed.
- (ii) identify laws which are not in harmony with the economic needs and requirements of the times and require amendments.
- (iii) identify laws which otherwise require changes or amendments and to make suggestions for their amendment.
- (iv) consider in a wider perspective the suggestions for revision/amendment in laws given by Expert Groups in various Ministries/Departments with a view to coordinating and harmonizing them.
- (v) examine the laws which affect the poor and carry out post enactment-audit for socio-economic legislations.

(vi) examine the existing laws in the light of Directive Principles of State Policy and to suggest ways of improvement and reform and also to suggest such legislations as might be necessary to implement the Directive Principles and to attain the objectives set out in the Preamble of the Constitution.

(vii) examine the existing laws with a view for promoting gender equality and suggesting amendments thereto.

(viii) revise the Central Acts of general importance so as to simplify them and to remove anomalies, ambiguities and inequities.
