GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 196 TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 15TH MARCH, 2017

Hearing of Cases via Video Conferencing

*196.SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI

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

- a) whether his Ministry has proposed compulsory hearing of high profile cases *via* video conferencing in different prisons across the country;
- b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- c) the manner in which this initiative would help in speedy trial of the aforesaid prisoners and provide time-bound and fair justice to the victims and their families?

ANSWER MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 196 FOR 15TH MARCH, 2017 REGARDING HEARING OF CASES *VIA* VIDEO CONFERENCING

(a) to (c): The eCourts Mission Mode Project of the Government of India encompasses provisioning of video conferencing facility between courts and jails. Under Phase-I of the project, nearly 500 court complexes and 342 corresponding prisons have been covered under the scheme. In addition, 429 court complexes have been covered from other sources.

Decision on processes of video conferencing lies within the domain of the Judiciary and any decision is taken in consultation with it.