

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

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *168.

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 07TH MARCH, 2018.

CCTV Footage under RTI

***168. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN:**

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

- (a) whether fresh initiatives have been taken or are proposed to be taken by the Government to make available the footage of CCTV cameras in courts to the public under the Right to Information Act, 2005;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the rationale behind the move; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

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. *168 FOR ANSWER ON 07TH MARCH, 2018.

(a) to (c) : In Writ Petition (Criminal) No. 99 of 2015 (Pradyuman Bisht *versus* Union of India & others), Supreme Court of India, *inter-alia*, directed that CCTV cameras (without audio recording) may be installed inside the subordinate courts and at such important locations of the court complexes as may be considered appropriate in at least two districts of every State / Union Territory (with the exception of small States / Union Territories where it may be considered to be difficult to do so by the concerned High Courts). The Hon`ble Supreme Court further directed that it is desirable that CCTV cameras are installed in all subordinate courts in such phased manner as may be considered appropriate by the High Courts. In pursuance of the above direction of the Hon`ble Court, a copy of the order of the Hon`ble Supreme Court was forwarded to Registrars General of all High Courts and Chief Secretaries / Administrators of all States / UTs by the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice *vide* D.O. letter No.15018 / 10 / 2015-Jus.II / e-Courts dated 28th August, 2017 for taking action to install cameras in all Subordinate Courts. The respective High Courts are to decide and take action for installation CCTV cameras in the subordinate courts in their jurisdiction. It has been further directed by the Hon`ble Supreme Court that the footage of the CCTV cameras will not be available under R.T.I. and will not be supplied to anyone without permission of the concerned High Court.
