GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4329

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 21st MARCH, 2018

Derecognition of Political Parties

4329. SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY:

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

- (a) whether in August 2013, the department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice in their 61st report recommended that the power to derecognise parties for violating Model Code of Conduct be included in the Representation of the People Act, 1951;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether The National Commission to review the working of the constitution in its 2002 report called for a separate law, making provision for recognition and derecognition of political parties, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the 255th report of the Law Commission on electoral reforms recommended changes to the Representation of Peoples Act to empower the poll panel, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether in December 2016, the Election Commission sent a set of 47 proposals on electoral reforms to the Government asking for powers to deregister a political party and to be authorised to issue necessary orders regulating registration and deregistration of political parties; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the status of the said proposal?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (f): The issue of electoral reforms in its entirety was examined by the Law Commission having regard to the Reports of various Committees in the past, including the reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice and National Commission to review the working of the Constitution. The Law Commission in its 255th Report has, inter-

alia, made certain recommendations for empowering the Election Commission for deregistration of political parties for non-compliance of the proposed provisions for regulation of the parties and also for failure to contest Parliamentary or State elections for ten consecutive years.

The Election Commission in December, 2016 had requested the Government to expedite the implementation of the recommendations of the Law Commission on electoral reforms, including the recommendations for empowering the Election Commission for deregistration of the political parties. The matter is under examination.
