

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2438

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 1ST AUGUST , 2018

Decriminalisation of adultery

2438. SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY :

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

- (a) whether the Government plans to make section 497 of the Indian Penal Code gender-neutral, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government also plans to decriminalise adultery and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has accepted the recommendations of the Malimath Committee for the reforms in the criminal justice system; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

- (a) to (d): Ministry of Home Affairs took up the matter on 06.07.2010 with the Ministry of Law and Justice to request the Law Commission of India to examine and give a comprehensive report covering all aspects of criminal law including the recommendations made by the Malimath Committee so that comprehensive amendments could be made in the various laws viz. Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act, etc. Law Commission has informed that focus areas have been identified and sub-groups have been formed to deliberate on identified areas. Amendment in criminal law is a continuous process. The matter regarding Section 497 of IPC dealing with adultery is presently sub-judice.
