GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2458

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 26th DECEMBER, 2018.

Judicial Impact Assessment

2458. DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government on the Judicial Impact Assessment report prepared by Justice Jagannadha Rao;
- (b) whether no action has been taken on the said report; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (c): A Task Force on 'Judicial Impact Assessment' was constituted by the Government on the directions of the Supreme Court of India in the matter of Salem Advocates Bar Association *versus* Union of India under the chairmanship of Justice M. Jagannadha Rao (Retd.), former Judge of the Supreme Court and formerly Chairman, Law Commission of India. The Task Force submitted its report on 15th June, 2008, which was placed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

The views of the State Governments and High Courts were solicited on the Report of the Task Force. Based on the feedback received from State Governments and High Courts, the matter regarding implementation of the Report of the Task Force was deliberated upon in the meeting of the Advisory Council of National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms held in November, 2012. It was *inter-alia* decided that the methodologies of the Judicial Impact Assessment as recommended by the Task Force may be gone into further by a Committee of Experts to assess the practicability of their implementation in the given circumstances. During the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in New Delhi in April, 2013 this matter was included in the Action Taken Report. It was mentioned that expert opinions received so far have expressed practical difficulties in making assessment of the impact of legislation on the workload of

judiciary and the practicability of the idea needs to be established before it is implemented. Accordingly, a Committee of Experts was constituted in September, 2013 to examine the issue of implementability of methodologies of Judicial Impact Assessment and suggest further action in this regard. The Committee in its report submitted on 9th January, 2015 *inter-alia* concluded that Judicial Impact Assessment was neither feasible nor desirable as a method of proper budgetary planning and allocation of funds for the judiciary.
