GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1014

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13^{TH} DECEMBER, 2022/AGRAHAYANA 22, 1944 (SAKA)

INTER-STATE COUNCIL

1014. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether drawing legitimacy from Article 263 of the Constitution, an Inter-State Council was set up 32 years ago;
- (b) if so, whether in the last 16 years only two meetings have been held of this council;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether some inter-State disputes like Karnataka-Maharashtra and Assam-Meghalaya have come up recently;
- (e) if so, whether there is no strengthening institutional mechanism to resolve such inter-State disputes;
- (f) if so, whether Zonal council with CMs meet regularly but that are not enough; and
- (g) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government for regular meeting of inter-State council to resolve such disputes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) to (c): The Inter-State Council has been setup under Article 263 of the Constitution, through a Presidential Order dated 28.05.1990. So far, 11 meetings of the Council have been held.

(d): No inter state dispute of Karnataka-Maharashtra and Assam-Meghalaya has come up recently before the Inter State Council.

(e) to (g): Five Zonal Councils viz. Eastern, Central, Northern, Western and Southern Zonal Councils have been constituted under States Reorganisation Act, 1956. So far, 201 meetings of the Zonal Councils and their Standing Committees have been held including 8 meetings in the current calendar year. In the Zonal Council meetings, various Inter-State as well as Centre-State issues are discussed and decisions are taken with the aim of resolving the issues in a spirit of consensus and in an amicable manner.
