GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1390

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 26TH JULY, 2022/ SRAVANA 04, 1944 (SAKA)

ANDHRA PRADESH DISHA BILL

1390. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH: SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received replies from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh (AP) regarding objections raised and clarifications sought by respective Union Ministries on Andhra Pradesh Disha Bill - Criminal Law (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 2019 and the Andhra Pradesh Disha (Special Courts for Specified Offences against Women and Children) Bill, 2020, if so, the details and status thereof;

(b) the dates on which objections were raised and clarifications sought by respective Union Ministries and the dates on which AP Government's replies on the same were received by the Union Government;

(c) whether the Government intends to provide assent to the above Bill;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of observations made by the respective Union Ministries on the aforementioned AP Government Bills?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)

(a) to (e): The Andhra Pradesh Disha Bill- Criminal Law (Andhra Pradesh

Amendment) Bill, 2019 and The Andhra Pradesh Disha (Special Courts for

Specified Offences against Women and Children) Bill, 2020 were received

on 07.01.2020 and 01.01.2021 respectively for assent of the Hon'ble

President of India. As per practice, Bills received from States for assent of Hon'ble President are processed in consultation with the nodal Central Ministries/Departments.

On the Andhra Pradesh Disha Bill- Criminal Law (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 2019, observations of nodal Ministries/Departments were shared with Government of Andhra Pradesh on 30.09.2020, 19.02.2021, 01.07.2021, 27.07.2021, and 29.10.2021. The Government of Andhra Pradesh provided clarifications on these observations vide letters dated 15.12.2020, 26.05.2021, 17.09.2021, 17.03.2022. The observations of Women Safety Division, MHA have been shared with the Government of Andhra Pradesh for further clarification on 31.05.2022.

On the Andhra Pradesh Disha (Special Courts for Specified Offences against Women and Children) Bill, 2020, observations of nodal Ministries/Departments were shared with Government of Andhra Pradesh on 02.07.2021. The Government of Andhra Pradesh provided clarification on these observations on 01.10.2021. The Ministry of Law & Justice (Department of Legal Affairs) however, advised to re-examine the provisions of the Bill in consultation with Ministry of Women & Child Development. The observations of Department of Legal Affairs were shared with Ministry of Women & Child Development and Women Safety Division, MHA for their comments on 04.03.2022.

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In order to expedite the matter, a meeting was held on 14.07.2022 with the representatives of Andhra Pradesh Government and nodal Central Ministries and Departments.

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