### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4654 TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2025

#### **Arbitration and Conciliation Act**

4654. Shri Haribhai Patel:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to amend the Arbitration and Conciliation Act in response to the recent Supreme Court judgement regarding the unilateral appointment of arbitrators;
- (b) the manner in which the Government plans to ensure that the amendment process addresses concerns raised by the Supreme Court while maintaining efficiency in dispute resolution;
- (c) the manner in which these amendments impact arbitration processes involving Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and private parties;
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to facilitate stakeholder consultations during the amendment process to ensure comprehensive input from all relevant parties; and
- (e) the manner in which the Government foresee these changes enhancing the overall legal framework for arbitration?

#### **ANSWER**

# MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

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(a) to (e) The proposed amendments to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, are under the process of requisite consultations. As part of the pre-

legislative consultation exercise, the draft Bill was placed on the website of the Department for inviting comments from the stakeholders. Further, as the subject-matter of arbitration falls within the concurrent list contained in Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, comments on the draft Bill have also been sought from the States. The draft proposed amendments to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 *inter-alia* aim to promote institutional arbitration, minimise court intervention and facilitate expeditious resolution of disputes through arbitration.

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