GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 914

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 3RD DECEMBER, 2015.

IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIFORM CIVIL CODE

914. SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: SHRI ARJUN MEGHWAL: DR. SHASHI THAROOR: SHRI NANA PATOLE: DR. MANOJ RAJORIA:

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

- (a) whether the Supreme Court has expressed concern over gender discrimination being faced by women of certain sections of society in the country and felt the need to bring in a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) as provided in Article 44 of the Constitution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has received proposals from various quarters for ending the said gender discrimination by implementing the UCC in the country and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government towards arriving at a decision to implement the provisions of UCC in the country?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Supreme Court had expressed concern over gender discrimination faced by the muslim women in

Civil Appeal No. 7217 of 2013 (Prakash and Others Vs Phulvati and Others) and observed that the matter needs consideration by that Court as the issue relates not merely to a policy matter but to fundamental rights of women under articles 14, 15 and 21 of the Constitution and international conventions and covenants. Further, the Hon'ble Court citing a catena of decisions have directed as follows:–

"a PIL be separately registered and put up before the appropriate Bench as per orders of Hon'ble Chief Justice of India."

- (c) The Government has received certain representations from various quarters for bringing in a Uniform Civil Code as envisaged under article 44 of the Constitution.
- (d) In view of the importance of the subject matter and sensitivity involved, wider consultation with stakeholders would be required for taking further steps in this regard.