

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1896**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2016.**

**PERSONAL LAWS**

1896. SHRI S. SELVAKUMARA CHINNAYAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend certain personal laws regarding divorce and lower the separation period to one year to become eligible for divorce on mutual consent for the Christian community in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. In order to bring uniformity in the minimum mandatory period of separate residence before a petition for dissolution of marriage by mutual consent filed by the parties to the marriage, the Government proposes to amend the Divorce Act, 1869 (4 of 1869) to reduce the minimum mandatory period of separate residence from “two years” as provided in subsection (1) of section 10A to “one year”.