

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

R A J Y A S A B H A
STARRED QUESTION No. *380
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 7TH APRIL, 2022.

CRIMINAL LAW REFORMS COMMITTEE

***380. Shri Binoy Viswam:**

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is involved with the Criminal Law Reforms Committee set up to review changes to the Indian Penal Code (IPC), Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and Indian Evidence Act (IEA);
- (b) if not, the reasons for non-involvement of Ministry in this project;
- (c) if so, the total number of recommendations received by the committee;
- (d) the expected time to release its report, either interim or final;
- (e) the total budget allocated to the committee; and
- (f) Government's order by which the committee has been established, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (f) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) of RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No.380 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH APRIL 2022**

(a) to (f): The Ministry of Law & Justice examines all legislative proposals from legal and drafting angle.

A Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Vice Chancellor, National Law University, Delhi and four other Members was constituted on 02.03.2020 by MHA to suggest reforms in the criminal laws of the country. A sum of Rs.45,40,000/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs Forty Thousand only) was allocated to the National Law University to meet expenditure on the honorarium, consultation fee, etc.

The Committee invited suggestions through a questionnaire based on secondary research and inputs from experts uploaded on its website which received response from various organizations, research centers, academics, lawyers, and civil societies from across the country. The Committee after extensive stake holders consultation and research has submitted its recommendations on 27.02.2022 on the three Criminal Laws, namely, the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act (IEA), 1872. The Committee has made recommendations on various sections of the IPC, CrPC and IEA.

The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs, in its 146th Report had recommended that there is a need for a comprehensive review of the Criminal Justice System of the country. Earlier the Parliamentary Standing Committee in its 111th and 128th Reports had also stressed upon the need to reform and rationalize the criminal law of the country by introducing a comprehensive legislation in Parliament rather than bringing about piece meal amendments in respective Acts. With a view to make comprehensive changes in the criminal laws of the country to provide affordable and speedy justice to all, create a people centric legal structure, the Government has initiated the process for comprehensive amendments to criminal laws viz. Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 in consultation with all stakeholders.

The Ministry of Home Affairs also sought suggestions from Governors, Chief Ministers of States, Lieutenant Governors (LGs) and Administrators of Union territories, Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Chief Justices of various High Courts, Bar Council of India, Bar Council of various States, various Universities/ Law Institutes and all Members of Parliament regarding comprehensive amendments in criminal laws. The order vide which the Committee was constituted is placed at Annexure-I.

No. 1/2/2019- Judicial Cell (Part I)
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs

North Block, New Delhi
Dated 2nd March, 2020

ORDER

The Competent Authority has accorded the in principle approval to constitute a Committee under the chairpersonship of Prof.(Dr.) Ranbir Singh, Vice Chancellor, National Law University, Delhi to suggest reforms in the criminal laws of the country in a principled, effective, and efficient manner which ensures the safety and security of the individual, the community and the nation; and which priorities the constitutional values of justice, dignity and the inherent worth of the individual. The composition of the Committee would be as follows:

Sl. No.	Member	Post
1	Prof.(Dr.) Ranbir Singh, Chairperson	Vice President, National Law University, Delhi
2	Prof.(Dr.) G.S. Bajpai, Member & Convener	Professor and Registrar, National Law University, Delhi
3	Prof.(Dr.) Mrinal Satish, Member	Professor National Law University, Delhi
4	Member (to be decided)	Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi
5	Member (to be decided)	District & Sessions Judge, Delhi Judicial Services, New Delhi.

2. The committee shall be supported by two Research Associates, one Research Assistant and one Secretarial Assistant and their services would be co-terminus with the life of the Committee. The total cost to be incurred on the honorarium, salary, consultation, data processing, preparation of copies etc. would be Rs. 45,40,000/- (Forty Five Lakh Forty Thousand only). The details of the same may be seen at Annexure-I. The expenditure will be met from the Professional services Head of Ministry of Home Affairs.

3. The tenure of the committee will be six months.

4. The Committee would submit progress report on monthly basis to this Ministry.

5. This issues with the concurrence of Integrated Finance Division vide their Dy. No.3488749 dated 02.03.2020.

Shri Prakash
(Shri Prakash)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India
Tele- 23092962

To

Prof.(Dr.) Ranbir Singh, Vice-Chancellor, National Law University Delhi,
Sector- 14, Dwarka, New Delhi -110078.

Copy to:

- (i) Integrated Finance Division, MHA w.r.t. their Dy. No.3488749 dated 02.03.2020.
- (ii) Chief Security Officer, MHA.
- (iii) Under Secretary (Cash), MHA.

Annexure-I

Estimated Budget:

S. No.	Head of Expenditure	Amount
1.	Honorarium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairperson= Rs. 5,00,000/- (One time consolidated) X 1 • Convener= Rs. 4,00,000/- (One time consolidated) X 1 • Members= Rs. 3,00,000/- (One time consolidated) X 2 	Rs. 5,00,000/- Rs. 4,00,000/- Rs. 6,00,000/-
2.	Salary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Associate= Rs. 75,000 per month (6 months) X 2 • Research Assistant= Rs. 50,000 per month (6 months) X 1 • Secretarial Assistant= Rs. 30,000 per month (6 months) X 1 	Rs. 9,00,000/- Rs. 3,00,000/- Rs. 1,80,000/-
3.	Expert Consultants: Rs. 1,00,000 per person (One time consolidated) X 4	Rs. 4,00,000/-
4.	Consultation Processes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation meetings with experts and functionaries of the criminal justice system= Rs. 2,00,000 X 2 • Internet Based Open Suggestion Platform Development= Rs. 2,00,000 	Rs. 4,00,000/- Rs. 6,00,000/-
5.	Misc. (Data Processing/Equipment/Stationary/Preparation of copies of report etc.)	Rs. 2,00,000/-
	Total:	Rs. 44,80,000/-
6.	Overhead/Contingency @ 5 percent on Rs. 12,00,000/-	60,000
	Grand Total	45,40,000