GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3316

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 31.03.2022

Complaints against judges

3316. DR. V. SIVADASAN:

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

- (a) the number of corruption and criminal complaints received against judges of High Courts and the Supreme Court during the last five years, year-wise data;
- (b) the number of cases which were enquired and by whom they were enquired; and
- (c) the number of cases in which thereis conviction till date, year-wise data?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (c): Accountability in higher judiciary is maintained through "in-house mechanism". The Supreme Court of India, in its full Court meeting on 7 May, 1997, the Supreme Court of India adopted two Resolutions namely (i) 'The Restatement of Values of Judicial Life" which lays down certain judicial standards and principles to be observed and followed by the Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts (ii) "in-house procedure' for taking suitable remedial action against judges who donot follow universally accepted values of Judicial life including those included in the Restatement of Values of Judicial life.

As per the established "in-house mechanismfor the higher judiciary, the Chief Justice of India is competent to receive complaints against the conduct of Judges of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justices of the High Courts. Similarly, the Chief Justices of the High Courts are competent to receive complaints against the conduct of High Court Judges. The complaints/representations received are forwarded to the Chief Justice of India or to the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court, as the case may be, for appropriate action.

In the last five years, only in one case, Department of Justice, with the approval of Hon'ble President of India, conveyed sanction for prosecution under section 19 of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended by the Prevention of Corruption Act, 2018) and section 197 of Cr.PC to CBI against a retired High Court Judge in 2021.

1631number of complaints (from 01.01.2017 to 31.12.2021) in the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) on the functioning of the judiciaryincluding judicial corruption have been received during the last 05 years and forwarded to the CJI/Chief Justice of High Courts respectively as per the established "in-house mechanism".
