

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

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**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2179  
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2021**

**India Law Reports Act**

**2179. SHRI JASBIR SINGH GILL**

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to request courts to issue direction to lawyers to submit quote Judgements from court website even after repealing the Indian Law Reports Act, 1875, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is planning to request the courts to start providing neutral citation on each copy of judgement quoted as precedent, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether despite E-court project being in force, courts are insisting on judgement copies of selected publishers causing financial hardship to litigants and lawyers, if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to prevent commercial monopoly of private publishers; and
- (d) whether the Government is planning to follow the mechanism being practiced in England where only official reports published by incorporated Council of Law Reports are binding precedents and not the citation by private publishers, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE**

**(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

- (a) to (c)** No sir, the matter pertains to rules framed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court under Article 145 and Hon'ble High Courts under Article 227 of the Constitution. Also as provided in Article 141 of the Constitution, the Law declared by the Hon'ble Supreme Court through its judgments is binding on all courts within the territory of India. However, it is only the *ratio decidendi* of the judgment which constitutes a binding precedent.

The manner of citation of a judgment by the Lawyers and the acceptance thereof by the Courts or otherwise is as per the practice, procedure and the relevant rules of the Supreme Court and High Courts.

- (d)** No authenticated information is available.