GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2518

ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 10th August, 2023

Measures to limit misuse of PILs

2518. Shri Sujeet Kumar:

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

- (a) whether Government has recorded significant amount of insubstantial/baseless PILs in the past year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government plans to introduce any procedural measures to limit misuse and abuse of PILs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENT AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

- (a) & (b): No such data is maintained by the Government.
- (c) & (d): Legal and Constitutional remedies against the administrative actions have been guaranteed under the provisions of the Constitution. Liberty is of the Petitioner to file a case or not against the administrative authorities to defend their actions and put forth the defence that their actions are legally and constitutionally valid. It is the domain of the Judiciary to decide whether there is merit or whether there is a substantive question of law in a petition.

Government has no role to play in it. However, adequate measures are taken to defend the interest of the Union Government by providing for procedure for filing pleadings duly vetted by the Department of Legal Affairs and by engaging experienced counsels/Law Officers.