(a) whether a large number of cases pending in Indian courts and non-implementation of judicial reforms have been cited by the World Bank as one of the reasons for India’s low rank in the Ease of Doing Business Index;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the World Bank has suggested certain reforms in performance appraisal system in judiciary to bring about uniformity, objectivity and standardization; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken / being taken thereon by the Government?

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

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) : The World Bank’s Doing Business Report assesses the “ease of doing business” in different economies based on the study of the areas that affect the business. ‘Enforcing contracts’ is one of the areas covered in the study. The ranking on the ‘enforcing contracts’ indicator is based on the assessment of the procedures, time and cost involved in resolving a commercial dispute.

The Government has adopted a co-ordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration by providing support for better court infrastructure including computerisation, encouraging increase in the strength of subordinate judiciary and initiating policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation.

(c) and (d) : Determining performance indicators and assessing the performance of judges is in the domain of the judiciary. The Hon’ble Supreme Court has formulated and notified the Policy and Action Plan for the National Court Management System (NCMS). Under the NCMS, a sub-committee has looked into the issue of developing a National Framework of Court Excellence to set measurable standards of performance for courts and a monitoring mechanism to measure these performance parameters. The Sub-Committee has submitted its report to the NCMS.