

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS**  
**(DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS & PUBLIC GRIEVANCES)**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3283**

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.03.2017)

**Validity of Self Attested Affidavits**

3283. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- a) whether instructions to implement the recommendations of the second Administrative Reforms Commission regarding acceptance of self- attested affidavits for all purposes have been issued by Central and State Governments and if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether the compulsion of attestation of affidavits by courts in various States and institutions is still in vogue and if so, the details thereof; and
- c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to recognize the self-attested affidavits in all the institutions of Central and State Governments and by when?

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office**

**(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

(a) to (c) The second Administrative Reforms Commission in its 4<sup>th</sup> Report titled 'Ethics in Governance' and 12<sup>th</sup> Report titled 'Citizen Centric Governance' had stressed on the need for simplification of Government procedures. As a part of simplification, the State Government of Punjab in the year 2009-10 decided to do away with the practice of submitting of affidavits and also allowing of self-attestation of copies of certificates for small level Government jobs. However, this decision did not have any bearing on the requirement of submission of affidavits in the Courts as per the law. This initiative of State Government of Punjab had won the Prime Minister's Civil Services Award. As the part of replication of the aforesaid initiative, the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances has been requesting on a regular basis the central Ministries/ Departments and the State/UT Governments to adopt the similar procedure. This is a continuous process.

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