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SC notice to Centre on hard copies of laws by private parties

ASHISH TRIPATHI NEW DELHI, DHNS 23/5720

The Supreme Court on Friday issued notice to the Centre on a plea to frame guidelines for regulating the publication of hard copies of all Acts of Parliament, rules, notification and Ordinances at a reasonable price.

A bench presided over by Chief Justice S A Bobde sought a response from the Union law ministry's legislative department wing and others on a petition filed by Arpit Bhargava, alleging laxity in ensuring dissemination of knowledge about central Acts, rules, etc being the convised cowner.

central Acts, rules, etc being the copyright owner.

The perioner argued that the right to know under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution extended to ensuring the availability of authentic, accurate and reasonably priced hard copies of all Acts of Parliament, rules, notifications, regulations, etc along with amendments. Publishing of laws and Acts by private parties was an infringement of copyright, as the government owned copyrights, he argued.