

In-house system has failed: Bhardwaj

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New Delhi: Admitting that the judiciary's in-house mechanism for appointment of judges had "completely failed", Union Law Minister H R Bhardwaj on Monday called for an alternative system. "The in-house procedure for dealing with complaints (against judges) has failed completely and so has the collegium system for appointment of judges," said the Minister, while talking to mediapersons after a conference on "Corporate Governance" here.

Bhardwaj said, "I would have changed the system if I could, but there is a need to evolve broader consensus on the issue in Parliament."

Incidentally, despite massive pressure from several quarters, including jurists, law-makers and the general public, Bhardwaj has failed to put in place an alternative system to the in-house mechanism and failed to review the manner in which appointments of SC and HC judges are made.

The proposed Judges' Inquiry Bill has not been tabled in Parliament, even as the Government is on the verge of completing its five-year tenure.