

of cases involving common question of law, constitution of special benches, procedural improvements, etc. have been taken to help speedy disposal of cases. The various recommendations contained in the Report of Arrears' Committee (Malimath Committee) which went into the problem of arrears in Courts, have been forwarded to all concerned such as the State Governments, the Central Ministries and the High Courts for suitable follow-up action.

STATEMENT

Cases Pending in Supreme Court and High Courts

Name of the Court	No. of cases pending between five to ten years (As on 31-12-1990)
1	2
SUPREME COURT	18113 (Regular Hearing matters only).
HIGH COURTS	
1. Allahabad	156512
2. Andhra Pradesh	4554
3. Bombay	35036
4. Calcutta	71824*
5. Delhi	25800
6. Gauwahati	2414
7. Gujarat	19259*
8. Himachal Pradesh	3516**
9. Jammu & Kashmir	6753@
10. Karnataka	10409@
11. Kerala	5878
12. Madhya Pradesh	3601
13. Madras	44564
14. Orissa	4666
15. Patna	7131@
16. Punjab & Haryana	16919

1	2
HIGH COURTS	
17. Rajasthan	14286
18. Sikkim	23

* Indicates the pendency in High Courts as on 30-6-1990.

** Indicates the pendency in High Courts as on 30-6-1989.

@ Indicates the pendency in High Courts as on 31-12-1989.

Flow of Narcotics

*542. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to check the flow of narcotics in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b) : A series of legislative and administrative measures have been taken from 1985 onwards to check the flow of narcotics in the country which include the following :

(i) A comprehensive legislation viz., the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 was enacted and brought into force in the country. It was amended in the year 1989 in order to make it more effective.

(ii) Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988, providing for preventive detention of drug offenders without trial for a maximum period of two years, was enacted.

(iii) Under the Narcotic Drugs and

Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, an apex co-ordinative and enforcement agency, viz. the Narcotics Control Bureau was created and was strengthened subsequently. The Narcotics Control Bureau has established effective co-ordination with all the Central and State enforcement agencies/departments.

- (iv) Narcotics cells have been created in the Customs and Central Excise Collectorates and some Police Organisations.
- (v) Close liaison is maintained with international agencies like International Criminal Police Organisation (ICPO-INTERPOL), International Narcotics Control Board, Customs Co-operation Council, United Nations International Drug Control Programme, Colombo Plan Bureau, etc.
- (vi) Agreements on the matter were signed with countries like Afghanistan, Mauritius, Pakistan and the United States of America.
- (vii) A regional convention viz., SAARC Convention on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances was signed by India in November, 1990, and
- (viii) India has acceded to the 1988 U. N. Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

Supply of Hank Yarn to Handloom Weavers

*544. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the steep increase in the price of hank yarn has adversely affected the handloom weavers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide hank yarn to the handloom weavers at concessional rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The weighted average prices of hank yarn have risen from Rs. 54.01 per kg to Rs. 57.11 per kg in Coimbatore market from 3-8-1991 to 17-8-1991. The trend of rise in prices continues to be in counts of 10s, 20s, 30s and 40s which are in heavier demand in the handloom sector. Prices for these counts in Coimbatore market as on 3-8-1991 and as on 17-8-1991 are given in the table below :—

Counts	Cotton Hank Yarn Coimbatore Market	
	3-8-1991	17-8-1991
10s	36.73	39.48
20s	49.00	52.08
30s	56.33	59.53
40s/42s	59.77	64.11

(c) Central Government have arrangements of standing nature to ensure the regular supply of hank yarn to the handloom weavers at reasonable prices through various measures, such as (i) The Hank Yarn