

(a) the recommendations of the Committee of Law Ministers of Gujarat Haryana, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal set up to go into the question of rationalisation of court fees; and

(b) what is the further progress in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE : (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Committee of Law Ministers of five States on Rationalisation of court fees is proposed to be discussed in the Joint Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers to be held shortly.

Storing capacity of public sector oil companies

2221. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the details about the storage capacity of public sector oil companies in the country for storing furnace oil, diesel, petrol etc;

(b) whether it is a fact that storage capacity of public sector oil companies for storing these petroleum products is inadequate; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to make available adequate storing capacity for these petroleum products ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (c). The adequacy of storage capacity for petroleum products in the country is continually reviewed and augmentation done wherever necessary. It would not be in the public interest to give any details.

Expansion Projects of Madras Refineries

2222. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Madras Refineries have initiated various expansion projects to augment various petroleum products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Madras Refineries Limited had taken up a project for expansion of their refining capacity from 2.8 MTPA to 5.6 MTPA. This included a crude distillation unit and secondary processing facilities. This Project has been completed in March, 1985.

Recruitment of local people in refineries in Assam

2223. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that only local people are being recruited in the refineries in Assam; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Recruitment to posts carrying pay-scales, the maximum of which does not exceed Rs. 1250/- per month are made out of the candidates sponsored by the local employment exchanges. For other posts, recruitment is done through open advertisements.

(b) This is because of the Employment Exchanges Compulsory Notifications Act and the guidelines of the Bureau of Public Enterprises.

Indigenisation of auto ancillaries units

2224. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : SHRI V. TULSIRAM :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have drawn up a plan for the rapid indigenisation of auto ancillaries units; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b). The Government has been reviewing the development and indigenisation of auto ancillary industry in the country from time to time. With a view to bridging the gap between the demand and production of auto components the Government has in the recent past approved a large number of new units and also proposals for modernisation of existing technology as well as induction of new technologies. Government has also delicensed the auto ancillary industry. It is expected that with the above measures the industry would be able to increase the production and also indigenise the components with latest technology.

Raising limit of assets for small units

2225. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that working group on 'upgradation of technology in selected areas in the small sector' has suggested the raising of the limit of assets for small unit; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report of the Committee is being examined in all its aspects.

National network to improve the telecommunication system of North Eastern Region

2226. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to connect all the district headquarters of the North Eastern Region with the rest of the country with the national network of satellite to improve the telecommunication system of that region;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the time by which work on this programme would start; and

(d) the names of the district headquarters proposed to be connected with the national network system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The VII Five Year Plan proposal of the Department of Telecommunications envisages provision of reliable transmission media such as terrestrial, UHF, Microwave and Satellite Communications systems to cover all the district headquarters of the North Eastern Region. Satellite is one of the several media available to provide reliable communications to any part of the country. These schemes will be undertaken subject to adequate outlay being made available to the Telecommunication sector. On completion of these schemes the district headquarters will be connected with reliable telecommunication media to their State Capitals and also to the National Telecommunication Network.

(b) Of the various reliable transmission media planned to cover all district headquarters of North Eastern Region, Satellite Earth Stations are already working at Agartala, Aizwal, Imphal, Itanagar, Kohima and have been approved for provision in the VII Five Year Plan at following places :