

(a) the number of Divisional Telephone Committees in Andhra Pradesh and their composition;

(b) the terms of the Committees and when these will be reconstituted; and

(c) the criteria to get a telephone connection on out of turn basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) There are no Divisional Telephone Advisory Committee.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

(c) The information is given in the Statement below.

Statement

Permanent telephone connections can be sanctioned on out of turn priority basis to provide traffic relief to heavy callers, or due to an areas change in multi-exchange telephone system when the 'main telephone' or its 'external extension' is involved in the area transfer. Heads of Telecommunications Circles and Telephone Districts can also sanction telephones in deserving cases on merits at their discretion from the 'OYT-Special' and 'Non-OYT-SS' priority categories. Members of Telecom/Telephone Advisory Committee also recommend sanction of telephone on out of turn basis from 'OYT' and 'Non-OYT-Special' categories at time of bulk release. Other deserving cases can be sanctioned from the Headquarters office on out of turn priority basis.

Pending Power Projects in Andhra Pradesh

1197. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some proposals to seek external financial assistance to complete all the approved pending power projects in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the projects are expected to be completed and start generating power for use particularly for agricultural purposes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). Proposals to seek external financial assistance for reducing the overall resource constraint in the Power Sector have been considered for different States including Andhra Pradesh. The question of availing of this aid has to be viewed in the context of effective utilization of indigenous capacity which is being done. No final decision to avail of external finance has, however, been taken.

Civil cases pending in Delhi High Court

1198. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of civil cases pending in Delhi High Court upto June, 1986;

(b) the period of their pendency; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for their early clearance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). The requisite information is being collected from the Registry of the Delhi High Court and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Steps taken for all the High Courts which include the Delhi High Court, are given in the Statement below.

Statement

Steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency

The following steps have been taken in recent years to reduce pendency in the High Courts :

1. Elimination of arrears in all the Courts has been discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States

held on 31st August—1st September 1985 and the Resolutions of the Conference have been commended to the High Courts and the State Governments.

2. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from Judgement of Single Judge of the High Court in Second Appeal (vide Section 100-A).
3. The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973.
4. The sanctioned strength of the High Court Judges has been increased from 351 in March 1977 to 434 as on 1st November, 1986.
5. Apart from the above, certain High Courts are taking the following steps for ensuring better disposal of cases :
 - (a) Cases involving common questions are being grouped by several High Courts;
 - (b) Matters fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates;
 - (c) Dispensing with printing of records;
 - (d) Expediting and giving priority to matters under certain Acts.
6. The recommendations contained in the 79th Report of the Law Commission have been examined. As action on majority of the recommendations is to be taken by the State Governments and the High Courts, these have been sent to them alongwith the view of the Union Government and they have been requested to take necessary action.
7. The Government have entrusted the Law Commission, the study of the judicial system to introduce necessary reforms. The terms of reference are :
 - (a) the need for decentralisation of

the system of administration of justice by :

- (i) establishing, extending and strengthening in rural areas the institution of Nyaya Panchayats or other mechanisms for resolving disputes;
 - (ii) setting up a system of participatory justice with defined jurisdiction and powers in suitable areas and centres;
 - (iii) establishing other tiers or systems within the judicial hierarchy to reduce the volume of work in the Supreme Court and the High Courts.
- (b) the matters for which Tribunals (excluding Services Tribunals) as envisaged in Part-XIV-A of the Constitution need to be established expeditiously and various aspects related to their establishment and working.
 - (c) the procedural laws with a view generally to disposing of cases expeditiously, eliminating unnecessary litigation, delays in hearing of cases and reforms in procedures and procedural laws and particularly to devising procedures appropriate to the forums envisaged in items (a) (i) and (a) (ii).
 - (d) the method of appointments to subordinate courts, subordinate judiciary.
 - (e) the training of Judicial officers.
 - (f) the role of the legal profession in strengthening the system of administration of justice.
 - (g) the desirability of formulation of the norms which the Government and the Public Sector Undertakings should follow in the settlement of disputes including a review

of the present system for conduct of litigation on behalf of the Government and such undertakings.

- (h) the cost of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on the litigants.
- (i) formation of an All India Judicial Service; and
- (j) such other matters as the Commission considers proper or necessary for the purposes aforesaid or as may be referred to it from time to time by the Government.

**Help to African countries in setting up
Small Industries**

1199. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to help developing countries of Africa in setting up small industries on its own model; and

(b) the details in regard to development of small industries and creation of institutional and infrastructural facilities in these countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). India is providing assistance to the developing countries including African countries in the promotion and development of small scale industries. The assistance need not be patterned on the Indian model. It depends upon various factors such as, the requirements of the country, the availability of local resources, infrastructural facilities, etc. The assistance is rendered in the form of providing consultancy services for planning, designing and establishment of industrial units along-with related infrastructural facilities. They

also include carrying out industrial potential surveys, assistance in policy areas, assistance in setting up of institutional and providing services for project identification and selection, and supply of plants, equipment, etc.

**Supply of Foodgrains to Flood
Affected States**

1200. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centre have rushed foodgrains to the States which have been affected by floods and drought during the last six months;

(b) if so, the break-up of the supplies made to each State;

(c) the price at which these cereals were supplied; and

(d) whether in view of the happy position that the country now enjoys with regard to wheat production, the supplies of wheat could be made at concessional rates to help the flood/drought affected people and if so, Government's reaction in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement indicating lifting of foodgrains by Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Assam/NEF States is given below.

(c) Foodgrains are supplied to State Governments at the Central Issue Prices fixed by the Central Government from time to time.

(d) Wheat is issued at Central Issue Prices. Distribution to the flood/drought affected people at concessional rates is decided upon by the State Governments where necessary.