

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India have taken various steps for improving productivity and efficiency in industry which will ultimately help in implementing the anti-poverty programme.

(b) and (c). Government of India (Cabinet Secretariat) have constituted a 'Commission on Economic Efficiency, Productivity and Exports' under the Chairmanship of Shri L.K. Jha, M.P., which *inter-alia*, will suggest measures for improving capacity utilisation, efficiency and productivity in industry both in the private and the public sectors.

Posting of High Court Judges appointed from Bar

1250. SHRI G.L. DOGRA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any guidelines have been laid down by Government for the posting of judges appointed from the local Bar in the same High Court in which they were practising before their elevation to judgeship or to some other High Court; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortage of Kerosene in Calcutta

1251. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of kerosene oil in the public distribution system in Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by Government to overcome the shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). West Bengal Government had intimated that due to floods and festivals in Sept./October 1986, there was heavy demand for kerosene in Calcutta and other parts of the State and requested for additional allocation to meet the situation. This was considered and additional ad hoc allocations of 2500 tonnes for September and 11000 tonnes for October 1986 were made to West Bengal, apart from the allocation already given at the enhanced growth rate of %, to meet the increased demand. The allocation for winter block comprising the months of November '86 to February '87 has been made at the growth rate of 7½%.

As retail distribution of kerosene to various sections/areas within the State is made and controlled by the State Government the West Bengal Civil Supplies Deptt. allocated a total quantity of 13312 Kls for Calcutta Public Distribution System for Oct. '86 and the oil industry met the same in full. In fact, the upliftment was 104%.

Payment of Fee to Government Advocates

1252. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Advocates who have been paid by Government a fee of more than rupees one lakh in a year during each of the last three years for conducting cases on behalf of the Government in the Supreme Court of India and in the High Courts of Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Delhi; and

(b) the number of cases won by Government and the number of cases lost, separately, in so far as cases referred to in part (a) above the concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Manufacture of Portable Rice Mills with Japanese Technologies

1253. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme for the manufacture of portable rice mills with Japanese technologies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, two applications, one from M/s. Oswal Agro Mills Ltd., New Delhi and another from M/s. Bindal Agro Chem. Ltd., Ludhiana, have been received for the import of Designs and Drawings from M/s AS-AF Corporation Ltd., Japan for the manufacture of Portable Rice Milling Machines. The first application from M/s. Oswal Agro Mills Ltd., has already been rejected. The second application is still under consideration.

Common licensing policy in Karnataka

1255. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Karnataka is considering a proposal to introduce a Common licensing policy under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon ?

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

(b) The Government of India have already conveyed their concurrence to the proposal of the Karnataka Government to issue the Karnataka Essential Commodities Common Licensing Order, 1986.

Vacancies of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts

1256. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court and High Court Judges as on 1 July, 1986 and the vacancies at present;

(b) the date of each of these vacancies; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for filling up the vacancies in Supreme Court and High Courts as soon as the vacancies occur ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). As on 1-7-1986, the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court was 26 Judges and of the High Courts 431 Judges. As on 1-11-1986 there were 11 vacancies in the Supreme Court and 70 vacancies in the High Courts. The dates from which these are lying vacant are given in the statement below.

(c) The matter regarding filling up of the vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is engaging the attention of the Government in consultation with concerned Constitutional authorities.

The Government have recently reiterated the instructions prescribing a time-schedule wherein the Chief Justices, the Chief Ministers and the Governors of the States have to send their recommendations and requested them to adhere to it so that the vacancies of Judges are filled in expeditiously.