

(b) and (c). The responsibility for providing protection to bridges on Railways rests with the State Governments and the Ministry of Home Affairs have advised the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations to take all necessary steps to provide protection against tampering of railway tracks and bridges and render all possible assistance to the railway authorities in this regard.

Appointment of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts

786. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK:
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY:
SHRI G. BHOOPATHY:
SHRI MANIK REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of judges appointed to the Supreme Court and High Courts during the last three months, Court wise;

(b) the number of vacancies existing in Supreme Court and High Courts as on date, Court-wise; and

(c) the time by which these vacancies will be filled?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Statement giving the information is given below.

(c) Appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts involves consultation with the concerned constitutional authorities, and is a continuous process. It is not possible to indicate the time by which these vacancies will be filled up.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>High Court</i>	<i>Number of fresh appointment made from 18-4-89 to 17-7-89</i>	<i>Number of vacancies of judges/ Additional Judges as on 18.7.1989</i>
1.	Allahabad	5	10
2.	Andhra Pradesh	—	6
3.	Bombay	7	3
4.	Calcutta	—	3
5.	Delhi	2	4
6.	Gauhati	2	—
7.	Gujarat	—	6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	2
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	—
10.	Karnataka	—	6

Sl. No.	High Court	Number of fresh appointment made from 18-4-89 to 17-7-89	Number of vacancies of judges/ Additional Judges as on 18.7.1989
11.	Kerala	—	2
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—	6
13.	Madras	—	4
14.	Orissa	1	—
15.	Patna	—	7
16.	Punjab and Haryana	—	2
17.	Rajasthan	—	3
18.	Sikkim	—	2
Total:		17	66*
Supreme Court		1	6

*During this period 10 vacancies arose due to retirement of Judges. The actual judge strength in the High Courts has increased from 381 in May, 1989 to 392 in July, 1989.

Supply of Electricity to Railway Directly from NTPC Plants

787. SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have approached Union Government for supply of electricity directly from National Thermal Power Corporation plants and to have its own captive transmission lines;

(b) whether Railways have proposed any comprehensive scheme in this regard;

(c) if so, whether Government have approved the same;

(d) to what extent it would solve the problem of Railways; and

(e) the details of the earlier system of supply of electricity to the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The Ministry of Irrigation and Power was approached in 1985 regarding allocation of a certain portion of power out of 15% unallocated power from central generating stations of NTPC and utilise the existing transmission lines of the State Electricity Boards. There was no proposal to have captive transmission lines.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) In the earlier as well as existing system, Railways are getting electric supply