

such allotment have been rejected in the corresponding period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b). The employees of other pools are not eligible for allotment from General Pool.

(c) and (d) Such requests are not acceded to but no such statistics are maintained.

Bench of Andhra Pradesh High Court

3091. SHRISOBHANADRESSWARA RAO VADDE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the lawyers in Andhra Pradesh are demanding for setting up of a Bench of Andhra Pradesh High Court between Guntur and Vijayawada;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up a Bench of Andhra Pradesh High Court at the above place;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) Action is taken by the Central Government in the matter of establishment of Benches of High Courts only if a proposal is received from the concerned State

Government, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. No such proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard.

Merger of TOMCO with Hindustan Lever Limited

3092. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether merger of TOMCO with a Hindustan Lever Limited is likely to result in acquisition of 77.2% of the national production of soap and 90% of the national production of synthetic detergent in the organised sector; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to counter such an eventuality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a). As per information collected by Director General of Investigation and Registration (MRTP Commission) from the annual reports of the two companies, M/s Hindustan Lever Limited and M/s. Tata Oil Mills Company Limited together are holding nearly 67% of the total market share in the matter of soaps and nearly 47% in the matter of detergents in the organised sector.

(b) The Director General of Investigation and Registration has already filed applications under Section 10(a) (iii) and 10(b) of the MRTP Act, 1969 for an enquiry by MRTP Commission and the matter is sub judice before the Commission. This fact has also been brought to the notice of the Hon'ble High Court at Bombay, who are concerned with the approval of the Scheme of amalgamation.