

Name of the CTO	Number of telegrams sent by hand to local offices** in					
	1982		1983		1984	
	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age
Bombay	2599872	24.95	2800843	26.30	2756122	26.48
Calcutta	1020945	9.40	1047856	6.34	920700	7.60
Madras	651388	6.63	629880	6.21	862860	8.94
New Delhi	520125	2.08	784111	4.1	244700	1.30

\*\* Bulk transfer of telegrams by hand to local delivery offices is done mostly between 2200 and 0600 hours when delivery of telegrams is not undertaken as a rule; whereas transmission of the same on telegraph circuits during this non-delivery period does not confer any advantage.

**Increase in the Telephone Capacity of Sonepat and Gohana Telephone Exchanges in Haryana**

1744. SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to increase the telephone capacity of Sonepat and Gohana Telephone Exchanges in Haryana during the next three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which these exchanges will be expanded;

(d) the number of additional lines to be given; and

(e) the funds allocated for the purpose, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (d). Sonepat Exchange is recently expanded by 200 lines. At Gohana spare capacity is available at present for providing connections. Further expansion of these exchanges would be considered depending on the building up of further demand and availability of equipment.

(e) Funds for the above expansion will be met from the lump sum grant allocated to the circle.

**Vacancies of Judges and pending cases in Allahabad High Court**

1745. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of cases are pending in Allahabad High Court for the last several years as there are many posts of Judges lying vacant;

(b) if so, the number of cases pending since 15 years, 10 years and 5 years; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to clear the cases and filling up the vacant posts of Judges ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c). As per information furnished by the Registry of the Allahabad High Court, 2,12,453 cases were pending as on 30.6.84. Out of these, 45,845 cases are more than 5 years old and 5019 cases are more than 10 years old. The pendency of cases in the Allahabad High Court and in other High Courts is due to several complex factors and is not attributable to the existence of vacancies alone. However, the filling up of the vacancies is engaging the attention of Government. Steps taken to reduce pendency in High Courts in general are given in the attached statement.

### Statement

#### Steps Taken to Reduce Pendency in High Courts

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

(1) The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from Judgment of Single Judge of the High Court in second appeal (vide Section 100A).

(2) The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973 and amended in 1978 and 1980.

(3) The sanctioned strength of the High Court Judges has been increased from time to time.

(4) 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 date.
- (c) Dispensing with printing of records.
- (d) Expediting and giving priority to matters under certain Act.

(5) The Government have also addressed the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts in which there is a heavy pendency of civil cases over 5 year's old to consider appointment of retired judges under Article 224A of the Constitution.

(6) The Government have also appointed Law Commission (10th Law Commission) to keep under review the system of judicial administration in the country. Among the terms of reference of the Law Commission are :

- (a) To keep under review the system of judicial administration to ensure that it is responsive to the reasonable demands of the times and in particular to secure :
  - (i) elimination of delays, speedy clearance of arrears and reduction in costs so as to secure

quick and economical disposal of cases without affecting the cardinal principle that decisions should be just and fair;

- (ii) simplification of procedure to reduce and eliminate technicalities and devices for delay so that it operates not as an end in itself but as a means of achieving justice; and
- (iii) improvement of standards of all concerned with the administration of justice.

(b) To revise the Central Acts of general importance so as to simplify them and to remove anomalies, ambiguities and inequities.

(c) To recommend to the Government measures for bringing the statute book up-to-date by repealing obsolete laws and enactments or parts thereof which have outlived their utility.

(7) 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 Government and High Courts, these have been sent to them alongwith the views of the Union Government and they have been requested to take necessary action.

(8) The Government have constituted an informal Committee of 3 Chief Justices to examine the problem of arrears in High Courts and suggest remedial measures.

#### Quota/price fixed for paper supplied to various States for printing text books and exercise books

1746. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY & COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether paper mills are expected to supply paper to States for printing of text books and exercise books;

(b) if so, the quota and the rate fixed by Government;

(c) the requirement of each State and the supply made against the requirement, State-wise ; and