

for the setting up of a bench of the Allahabad High Court for the Western districts of Uttar Pradesh. The Jaswant Singh Commission was set up on 4th September, 1981 to consider all aspects arising out of the demand, and the Commission was to submit its report within six months. The Commission sought extensions from time to time to enable it to submit the report. In the meantime, demands were made for establishment of permanent benches of the High Court of Gauhati, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Madras and the terms of reference of the Jaswant Singh Commission were enlarged on 14th December, 1983. The Commission is now required to examine and report on these demands as well as to examine all aspects of the general question of having benches of High Courts at places other than their principal seats and on broad principles and criteria to be followed in this regard. The Commission has to submit its report by 13th of March, 1985.

[English]

Transfer of Judges

148. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to restrict transfer of High Court Judges; and

(b) if so, whether any guidelines in this regard have been laid down ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A. K. SEN) : (a) & (b). The Government have accepted the recommendation of the Law Commission that there should be a Convention whereby one-third of Judges in each High Court should be from outside the State. This decision can be implemented by making initial appointments from outside as well as by effecting transfers. A beginning has been made by implementing a Policy of having Chief Justices of High Courts from outside in accord-

ance with certain guidelines drawn up after consultation with the Chief Justice of India. A copy of the same is placed on the table of the House. Placed in Library See No. LT-171/85] Few initial appointments of puisne Judges, have also been made from outside. Transfers of puisne Judges, as such, have not been made.

Cooking Gas Leakage Detection Device

149. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of PETROBUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of deaths particularly of women are caused by explosion of cooking gas cylinders in kitchens ;

(b) if so, the steps devised to ensure safety of cooking gas users; and

(c) whether Government will direct the refineries to manufacture some gas leakage detection and early warning device for kitchens ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir, Government are aware that a number of deaths in kitchens are attributable to cooking gas and, often occurring owing to disregard of safety precautions.

(b) Several steps have been taken to ensure the safety of cooking gas users. These include change in design of valves with matching regulators, addition of chemical to give a strong stench, extensive Training for delivery-men and mechanics of the distributors, educating customers on safe handling of equipment, periodical education through press, Television and radio on essential safety precautions to be taken while using LPG

(c) There is no such proposal.

Cut in Plan Outlay for Communications

150. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :