

Custom Cases pending with Courts

1385. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details regarding the Custom Cases which are pending with courts in different States;

(b) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to open some more Customs Courts exclusively for settling these cases; and

(c) if so the names of such States where these courts are being opened?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

(b) and (c). The matter is under consideration.

Recommendations of Law Commission on Changes in the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955

1386. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission has recently forwarded its plan on the question whether irretrievable breakdown of marriage should be introduced as ground of divorce into the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTERS OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendation of the Law Commission is under examination.

Punctual Running of Trains

1387. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the trains are not running punctually;

(b) if so, broad outline of the position of the said phenomenon during the period January, 1977 to June, 1978;

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the absence of punctuality; and

(d) how are the defects and late departures/arrivals of trains looked into and removed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) to (d). The punctuality performance of Mail/Express trains on different zonal railways during the period January, 77 to June, 78 had been satisfactory upto the month of March, 1978, when the punctuality percentage ranged between 88.8, and 94.6 per cent on B.G. and 90.0 and 96.7 per cent on M.G. Punctuality performance was, however, effected adversely during the months of April and May, 78 on account of wide-spread alarm chain pulling, disconnection of hoses/pipes, miscreant activities, extreme summer heat, running of a large number of special trains for clearing summer rush, public/staff agitations etc.

A special punctuality drive has been instituted on all the railways with effect from 1-6-78 and the running of trains is being watched closely, at all levels. Avoidable detentions are taken up immediately and remedial/punitive action taken to improve the running of trains. Liaison is being maintained with the concerned State Governments to arrest the incidence of alarm chain pulling and hose pipe disconnection by miscreants. As a result of this drive, there has been an improvement in the punctuality of trains during the month of June, 1978.