

Statement-II

The following steps have been taken during recent years to expedite the disposal of cases, namely:--

(i) On 1-4-1977 as against the total number of 349 sanctioned posts of High Court Judges only 285 Judges were in position. The States and the Chief Justices have been asked to adhere to specified time schedule for sending their proposals and the Central Government takes the initiative in asking them to submit their proposals for vacancies existing or about to occur. The result is that on 4-7-1979 the total number of High Court Judges had gone up to 347. Besides 4 *ad hoc* Judges have been appointed under article 224A.

(ii) Since 1-4-1977, the sanctioned strength of Judges has been increased in the High Courts in respect of which proposals were received. This increase has been made in the following High Courts from the dates the posts are filled up:—

Name of the High Court	Number of posts increased	Number of appointments made against new posts.
Allahabad	9	7
Delhi	6	2
Gauhati	1	
Himachal Pradesh	2	2
Karnataka	6	6
Madhya Pradesh	6	1
Madras	4	3
Patna	3	
Rajasthan	2	1
	38	22

(iii) Cases involving a common question are being grouped together by several High Courts so that with one judgment the whole group would be disposed of.

(iv) The Law Commission as well as the Chief Justice of India were asked to make suggestions. The recommendations of the Law Commission and the Supreme Court have been received.

Appointment of Class II and Class III officers

388. SHRI SHIV NARAIN SARSONIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many class II and III officers from Scheduled Castes and Tribes are there in his Ministry and A.I.R.;

(b) how apprenticeships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been drawn training in his various departments, and

(c) how many non-regularised employees are in the Radio Station and how many permanent Harijans are working* in the Radio Stations?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Grant of Petrol Pumps and Gas Agencies to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

389 SHRI SHIV NARAIN SARSONIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS, be pleased to state the number of Scheduled Castes and Tribes granted Petrol Pumps and Gas agencies in accordance with the policy declared and where; figures may be given from 1960 to 1976 and 1977 to May 1979?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.