

Broadcasting Government are committed to establish an egalitarian society and to promote social and economic justice for all in the country. Towards this end, the official Media Units have to play a vital role in the context of overall development strategies and programmes of the Government. The Media Units have to serve the rural population, minority communities and other weaker and vulnerable sections of the society by devising suitable programmes for eradicating social evils, narrow attitudes, etc. In this context, the then Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting was merely exhorting official media units to serve the people professionally.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Appointment of senior most Judge as Chief Justice

2190. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the senior most Judge of the High Court is not appointed as Chief Justice in the normal course;

(b) whether Bar Council of Maharashtra has protested against this; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government on it?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) The appointments of the Chief Justices of the High Courts are made in accordance with the provisions of Article 217 of the Constitution. No separate criteria have been prescribed for appointment as Chief Justice.

(b) The Bar Council of Maharashtra in a resolution passed by it on 25th October, 1980 has protested against the "reported move to transfer Hon'ble Judges and Chief Justices from one High Court to another without their

consent." The Resolution adds that "This Council strongly protests against the apathy of the Central Government in not appointing the senior most Judge of the High Court as the Chief Justice in normal course and continuation of senior most judges merely as Acting Chief Justice in five High Courts in our country....".

(c) The Government has received representations from various quarters including several Bar Associations/ Bar Councils etc. urging that as a matter of policy the Chief Justice of the High Court should be appointed from outside the jurisdiction of that High Court and that resort should be had to Article 222 of the Constitution to give effect to this suggestion.

The matter is engaging the attention of the Government. Consultations are being effected with the Chief Justice of India.

#### गुजरात को बिजलत प्राप्त

2191. श्री मोती भाई आर० चौधरी : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गुजरात राज्य को तारापुर परमाणु बिजली केन्द्र से कितनी बिजली दी जा रही है और क्या यूरेनियम उपलब्ध न होने के कारण गुजरात को आगामी महीनों में बिजली दिए जाने की सम्भावना नहीं है और यदि हां, तो राज्य को कितनी कम बिजली मिलेगी ;

(ख) क्या उकाई पन बिजली केन्द्र के जलाशयों में पानी की मात्रा कम होने के कारण इस केन्द्र में बिजली का उत्पादन कम हो रहा है; यदि हां, तो बिजली उत्पादन में किस हद तक कमी हुई है ;

(ग) गुजरात के मुख्य मंत्री द्वारा गैस, भट्टी के तेल और कोयले की कितनी कितनी मात्राओं की मांग की गई है और आगामी