

High Courts. The Standing Counsel are appointed for the Central Government cases from the Advocates practising in the respective High courts on the basis of their integrity, competence and standing at the Bar.

(c) In view of answer to part (b), the question does not arise.

(d) and e). Out of 28 cases of new appointments since 1980, the Chief Justices of the respective States were consulted in 2 cases and Advocates-General in 5 cases by my Ministry, and in one case Advocate-General of the State is the Central Government Standing Counsel.

Appointment of Panel Counsels in High Courts by Central Government

2371. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) are there any rules for deciding as to who should be appointed as the Central Government Panel Counsel in High Courts;

(b) what are the qualifications and minimum experience required for appointing a person as a Central Government Panel Counsel in High Courts;

(c) whether all the Central Government Standing Panel Counsels appointed by the Central Government in High Courts since 1980 fulfil the said qualifications and experience;

(d) in how many cases the Chief Justice of the High Court and the Advocate-General of the State have been consulted before making such appointments; and

(e) in how many cases they have not been consulted?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) and (b). There are no qualifications and minimum experience prescribed for the

persons appointed by my Ministry as Central Government Panel Counsel in the High Courts. The Panel Counsels are appointed for the Central Government cases in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras High Courts and they are selected from the Advocates practising in the respective High Courts on the basis of their integrity, competence and standing at the Bar.

(c) In view of answer to part (b), the question does not arise.

(d) In the finalisation of the panels since 1980 neither the Chief Justice nor the Advocate-General of the respective States has been consulted.

(e) In view of the answer given to part (b), the question does not arise.

Underground Coal Gasification with foreign collaboration

2372. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:
SHRI M. RAMGOPAL
REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under their consideration for underground coal gasification, with the assistance of foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the names of the countries which have been tapped for foreign collaboration and reaction of these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Belgium and Federal Republic of Germany who are undertaking experiments on underground coal gasification on pilot plant scale have shown their readiness to accept a few Indian scientists for association in their work.