

the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court and the Courts of Magistrates First Class in A&N Islands since last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) and (b). Information is being collected, and the same will be laid on the Table after the receipt of the same.

Recommendations of Hathi Committee for Abolition of Brand Names

4349. **SHRI MOHAN BHAI PATEL:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hathi Committee have recommended for the abolition of brand names;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said recommendations have not been implemented; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). As part of the 1978 Drug Policy, a decision was taken to abolish brand names in respect of five drugs on an experimental basis and to ensure that all single ingredient drugs newly introduced in the country shall be marketed only in generic names. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued the necessary notification in January 1981 amending the relevant provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules to implement the above decision. Some drug firms have challenged the legal validity of the January 1981 Notification of the Ministry of Health through writ petitions in the Delhi High Court. Hence the matter is *sub-judice* at present.

Permit System for Coal

4350. **SHRI MOHAN BHAI PATEL:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to abolish the permit system of coal and make free trade in the sale of coal;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the present system of distribution of coal in the various States and Union Territories followed by the Coal India Limited and other companies; and

(d) what are the guidelines or instructions issued by Government in regard to distribution of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (d). The distribution of coking coal used for metallurgical purposes alone is controlled and it is regulated by the Coal Controller. There is no statutory control in regard to distribution of other varieties of coal and coke. However, due to constraints in regard to transportation capacity; railway wagons are allotted for movement of coal under a system of sponsorship. Coal India also offers coal for movement by road against shortfalls in rail despatches. Soft coke is released only on the basis of sponsorship issued by the State Governments.

Public sector units are also supplied coal under the sponsorship system in accordance with their requirements.

On account of improved availability of coal resulting from increased production, coal of inferior grades in substantial quantities has been put on sale free of restrictions in a large number of identified collieries. Coal India has also recently introduced a system of release of superior grades of coal to new consumers on such consumers furnishing the prescribed documentation relating to their actual requirements of coal.