

Vacancies of Judges in Patna High Court

3258. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the posts of Chief Justice and some other judges are lying vacant in Patna High Court ;

(b) if so, since when these posts are lying vacant and the reasons therefore ; and

(c) the time by which Government propose to fill up these posts ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL) : (a) to (c) The office of Chief Justice of the Patna High Court was filled up on 29.11.1983.

As on 1.12.1983, there were two posts of puisne Judges vacant in the Patna High Court. These posts are vacant from 11.7.82 and 28.5.83.

The matter regarding filling up of the two posts of Judges in the Patna High Court is engaging the attention of the Government in consultation with the constitutional authorities. It is not possible to indicate the time by which these posts will be filled up.

Payment of Commercial Rates for Advertisements by DAVP

3259. SHRI D.S.A. SIVAPRAKASHAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that DAVP has been refusing to pay newspapers at commercial rates for the advertisements ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the IENS has represented to Government for payment at commercial rates ; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government to that representation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a)

to (b) Advertisement rates offered to various papers by DAVP are based on their circulation as per the provision of the Rate Structure introduced in 1977. Taking into account the increase in the cost of production, a 20% increase in these rates was allowed with effect from 1.10.1981.

The main considerations weighing in favour of continuation of the above policy are as follows :—

(i) The basis of fix action of commercial rates by newspapers is not very clear in many cases ; these rates are also not uniform as between various papers.

(ii) Many Government advertisements are informative/educative and not commercial in nature ; it is, therefore, not possible for DAVP to give commercial rates for this purpose.

(iii) The DAVP rate structure was introduced by Government after taking into account various aspects of newspaper economics and provides for increase/decrease in advertisement rates as per the cost of production. Hence, the rates offered by DAVP are reasonable and have a rational basis.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The question of commercial rates for Government advertisements had, in the past, been considered in detail. It is however, felt that in view of the considerations explained above, the present practice of DAVP offering advertisement rates to newspapers as per the provisions of Rate Structure may continue.

TV Transmitter for Balasore

3260. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 43 on 15 November, 1983 regarding installation of low power TV Transmission Towers in Orissa and state ;

(a) the area of Balasore District in Orissa likely to be covered by TV transmission and the date by which 51 per cent of the area of Balasore District will be covered ; and