

Shortage of Multi-Vitamins

1581. SHRI BANWARI LAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state : whether there has been any shortage of multi-vitamin products in the market as a direct result of fixing un-economic prices ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : The prices of re-formulated Schedule-V Multi-Vitamin formulations fixed by the Government under the Drugs (Prices-Control) Order, 1979 are fair and reasonable. No shortage of multi-vitamin formulations on account of fixation of fair or reasonable prices or otherwise have been reported.

Pending cases in Calcutta High Court and filling up of vacancies of Judges

1582. SHRI A.K. ROY : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1532 on 1, March, 1983 regarding pending cases in Calcutta High Court and filling up of vacancies of Judges and state :

(a) the action taken by Government to dispose of more than one lakh cases pending in Calcutta High Court when the number of pending cases was 93,537, on 30th June, 1982 ;

(b) the number of pending cases as on 31 October, 1983 and number of vacancies of judges still existing ; and

(c) action taken to give relief to the distressed families of the workers removed from service due to long delay in disposal of their writs ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL) : (a) and (b). As per information furnished by the Registry of Calcutta High Court, the pendency of main cases as on 30.9.83 is 1,10,201. The vacancies of Judges as on 1.3.84 are 5. Government continues to address itself to the problem of arrears. Steps taken to reduce pendency in High

Courts in general which also include Calcutta High Court are given in the attached statement.

(c) It is stated that no action to give relief is required to be taken by Government for the cases pending in Calcutta High Court except when such relief is ordered by the court in a particular case.

Statement

Steps taken to reduce pendency in High Courts

The following steps have been taken to reduce pendency in High Courts :—

(1) The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from Judgement of Single Judges of the High Court in second appeal (vide Section 100A).

(2) The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973 and amended in 1978 and 1980.

(3) The sanctioned strength of the High Court Judges has been increased from 351 in March, 1977 to 421 in February, 1984.

(4) Apart from the above certain High Courts are taking the following steps for ensuring better disposal of cases :

(a) Cases involving common questions are being grouped by several High Courts.

(b) Matters fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates.

(c) Dispensing with printing of records.

(d) Expediting and giving priority to matters under certain Acts.

(5) The Government have also addressed the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts in which there is a heavy pendency of civil cases over 5 years' old to consider appointment of