

are found to be true, punishments can be imposed on them by way of reprimand, suspension and even removal of their names from the roll of advocates maintained by the Bar councils. The State Bar Councils have a number of Committees called Disciplinary Committees which are statutorily empowered to hear the complaints against advocates on the grounds of professional or other misconduct. The Bar Council of India is the appellate authority in disciplinary matters relating to advocates and this Council has been hearing and deciding appeals against the orders of the State Bar Councils which hear the complaints at the first instance. The Bar Council of India can also decide complaints which are transferred to it from the State Bar Councils if the State Bar Councils are unable to decide the matters within the prescribed period of one year from the date on which the complaint has been referred to Disciplinary Committee. The Bar Council of India during the year 1998 decided a number of such complaints and appeals details of which are given below:

REMOVAL	SUSPENSION	REPRIMAND
9 Cases	20 Cases	4 Cases

Any misbehaviour of the Advocate either in the Courts or outside can be brought to the notice of the concerned State Bar Council in the manner prescribed under Advocates Act and the Rules made thereunder and the matters are dealt with accordingly. Misbehaviour of any advocate in Courts can be brought to the notice of the concerned State Bar Councils by the Courts or any person concerned and the Bar Councils will deal with such matters as per the prescribed manner.

In this manner the State Bar Councils and the Bar Council of India are exercising its disciplinary jurisdiction over the advocates in the Country to maintain the Standards of Professional Conduct and Etiquette by the lawyers.

- (c) Does not arise.

Post Offices

2782. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open Post Offices/Sub Post Offices and Branch Post Offices in Shjaanpur District in Uttar Pradesh especially in the Garam Barai during 1999-2000; and

- (b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise ; and
(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) to (c) Post Offices are opened subject to norm based justification and availability of resources and targets. The targets for opening Post Offices are allotted Postal Circle-wise at the beginning of each Annual Plan. The proposal for opening an Extra Departmental Branch Post Office at Gram Bharai was examined and found not justified on population and financial norms.

Appointment of Governors

2783. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Chief Election Commissioner has recently made some suggestions in regard to the appointment of Governors;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c) Government has not received any suggestion from chief Election Commissioner regarding appointment of Governors.

[Translation]

AIDS Cure

2784. SHRI INDRAJEET MISHRA :
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any research is being made for curing AIDS through the Indian System of Medicine; and
(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The Government of Tamil Nadu has been conducting research by administering Siddha drugs to HIV/AIDS patients at Madras Medical College and Government Hospital of Thoracic Medicine, Tambaram. All suspected cases of HIV infection were clinically examined. At present, 135 male and 20 female patients with HIV/AIDS are undergoing treatment with Siddha drugs. All the patients are showing clinical and CD-4 improvements.

[English]

Ayurvedic University in Nagpur

2785. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal for the setting up of an Ayurvedic University in Nagpur;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the stage at which it stands at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIDALIT EZHILMALAI):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Conversion of Genetic Tools

2786. SHRI R.S. GAVAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has identified Some Medical Colleges for conversion of genetic tools for the health purposes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIDALIT EZHILMALAI):

(a) and (b) Indian Council of Medical Research propose to set up a Task Force on Human Genetics under which a network of genetic centres in various medical colleges and hospitals in different States will be created. These centres will be equipped to provide genetic counselling, genetic diagnostic services and refer cases for prenatal diagnosis for various genetic diseases to the referral centres.

[Translation]

Afforestation Scheme on Aravali Ranges

2787. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any afforestation scheme is being run by the Union Government at present to make the Aravali Ranges lush green ;

(b) if so, the area of Rajasthan covered by Aravali ranges alongwith the average of the forest area therein ;

(c) whether a major part of the Aravali ranges has been converted into desert; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) :
(a) Afforestation activities are being undertaken in the Aravali ranges by the respective State Governments under centrally sponsored schemes and externally assisted forestry projects.

(b) Aravali ranges cover 1.456 lakh sq. km. geographical area in Rajasthan whereas total recorded forest area of the State is 31,700 sq. km.

(c) and (d) Forest cover and the ecology of Aravali ranges are subjected to various biotic pressures including mining in some of the areas. Afforestation activities being undertaken under various schemes help in maintaining the ecological status of Aravali ranges. Besides, restriction under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 on certain activities causing environmental degradation in Gurgaon district of Haryana and Alwar district of Rajasthan also helps in maintenance of ecological status of these ranges. As per the State of Forest Report, 1997, the comparative forest cover in Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana and Rajasthan entailing Aravali ranges, has increased in 1997 assessment vis-a-vis 1995 assessment.

[English]

Vacancies in Income Tax Appellate Tribunals

2788. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies lying vacant in various Income Tax Appellate Tribunals in the country and the time from which these are lying vacant; and

(b) the steps taken to fill up these vacancies alongwith the time by which all the vacancies are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) A statement showing the number of vacant posts in the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal and the dates from they are lying vacant is placed below.

(b) Most of the vacancies pertain to the 15 addl. benches of the Tribunal sanctioned recently. The Selection process for appointment of Members of these Benches has already been completed and the report of the Selection Board is under consideration for the Government. Office accommodation for the newly created Benches at Agra, Jodhpur, Visakhapatnam, Goa and Bangalore have been finalised and these benches are likely to become functional as soon as the partitioning work in these Buildings are completed. As regards vacancies in other grades, the Tribunal has already taken necessary steps for circulation of vacancies in other Central/ State Govt. Departments, nominations of candidates by Staff Selection Commission and for taking candidates through local employment exchanges.

Statement
Vacancy Position as on 9/3/99

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Posts	Filled	Vacant	Vacant Since
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	President	1	1	--	--
2.	Senior Vice President	1	1	--	--