

concern was expressed include delays in appointment of teachers; unsatisfactory pace of construction of school buildings and under-utilisation of teaching learning material by teachers.

(c) and (d) The Operation Blackboard Scheme was last revised in 1993-94 to extend it to upper primary schools and to provide for a third teacher and third class room in larger primary schools with more than 100 children. During the VIII Plan, the coverage of these components was limited to 10% and 30% of such schools respectively. A provision of Rs. 304 crores had been made in 1998-99 to fund these components of Expanded Operation Blackboard in uncovered schools.

[Translation]

#### Constitution of Judicial Commission for Judges

797. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to constitute a high level judicial Commission to probe into the cases relating to misconduct of judges of Supreme Court of India and High Courts and to make recommendation to remove them is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c) One of the items of the National Agenda for Governance is to set up a National Judicial Commission to make recommendations for Judicial appointments in the Supreme Court and the High Courts and draw up a code of ethics for the judiciary.

It is not possible to indicate the time by which the final decision in this regard would be taken.

[English]

#### Afforestation Programme

798. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK  
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of targets fixed for afforestation and achievements made during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for the shortfall, if any, in achieving the targets;

(c) the remedial steps being taken to achieve the targets; and

(d) the target fixed during 1998-99 for Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI) : (a) The State-wise targets and achievements for afforestation in each of the last three years are given in the attached Statement.

(b) The shortfall in the achievements in each of the years for distribution of seedlings and the area brought under plantation is mainly because of lack of funds. Simultaneously, expenditure on wages for labour, which is a large component of afforestation work, has been rising.

(c) Efforts have been made to enhance the financial allocations for afforestation work in the various schemes of different Ministries in the Government of India and in States. State Governments have also been asked to ensure that all efforts are made to achieve targets using cost effective measures with peoples' participation.

(d) The targets fixed for Karnataka for 1998-99 are as under :

Seedlings Distribution	Area
(For planting on Private lands)	(Public lands including forest lands)
400 lakhs	68000 hectares.