

(a) whether Government propose to set up a T.V. centre in Jhanjharpur district in North Bihar; and

(b) if so, by when and details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. There is, at present, no approved scheme to set up a T.V. transmitter in Jhanjharpur sub-division of Madhubani district of Bihar.

#### Cases pending in Patna High Court

309. SHRI YUVRAJ: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the Patna High Court;

(b) whether some posts of judges are lying vacant in the Patna High Court; and

(c) if so, the time by which judges will be appointed there and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) As on 30.6.1989, 66221 cases were pending in Patna High Court.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister of Bihar was requested to send recommendations for filling the vacant posts of Judges in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Patna High Court and the Governor. It is not possible to indicate the time by which Judges will be appointed in the Patna High Court but the consultative process has been expedited.

[English]

#### Appointment of Port Agent by Scindia Steam Navigation Company Limited

310. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems faced by Scindia Steam Navigation Company Limited and whether the management has reduced the number of its employees;

(b) whether the management is now planning to appoint a port agent at Calcutta rendering the employees out of service; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government to safeguard the interests of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India Limited (SCICI) have reported that since the company has scrapped 9 old vessels and is presently operating a fleet of 13 vessels on time charter basis, the staff strength has been nationalised, 360 employees have accepted the voluntary retirement scheme offered by the Company. Thus the staff strength has recuded from 552 employees to 192 employees.

(b) and (c). Keeping in view the scale of operations at Calcutta the Company has considered various alternatives, including that of appointment of a Port Agent at Calcutta. The Board of Directors of the Company has not yet taken any specific decision.

#### Arrears in Supreme Court and High Courts

311. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the steps taken or proposed towards imple-

mentation of suggestions made by the Law Commission and other concerned quarters in regard to clearance of arrears in Supreme Court and High Courts.?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) The summary of the recommendations contained in the Report of three Chief Justices Committee 1984 and as accepted by the Government has been sent to all the State Governments/High Courts for necessary action. The recommendations made by the 11th Law Commission in its various Reports are at different stages of examination. Government have also recently constituted a Committee of three Chief Justices of High Courts to study the problem of arrears in Courts and to suggest remedial measures.

**Purchase of Residential Commercial Properties by Executives of Punjab and Sind Bank**

312. **SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some executives of the Punjab and Sind Bank purchased residential/commercial properties from the borrowers of the Bank;

(b) if so, the details of the executives and borrowers, alongwith credit facilities enjoyed by them and the particulars of properties including their location, area and the rates at which these were purchased;

(c) whether some of these properties have been rented out by the executives to the Bank;

(d) if so, the details of the owners and

the rate of the rent charged and

(e) the action taken or contemplated by Government in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):** (a) to (c). According to information received from Punjab & Sind Bank some executives of the bank purchased properties from the borrowers of the bank. The names etc. of the executives and the borrowers and the details of the properties purchased are given in statement below. The credit limits enjoyed by the borrowers have not been indicated as these cannot be disclosed in terms of the provisions contained in Banking Companies (Acquisition & Transfer of Undertakings) Act 1980 and the customs and usages prevalent amongst the bankers. The bank has further reported that none of these properties have been rented out to it.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The bank has reported that one Shri C.S. Rajwant, DGM had purchased properties from a borrower of the bank at much less than the market rates and the borrower was also accommodated unauthorisedly much beyond discretionary powers. He was placed under suspension on 13.9.85 and the suspension was revoked on 2.5.89. A charge-sheet was issued to him on 10.3.86 for various allegations including the allegation that he obtained flats, one each for his wife and daughter, from the client of the Bank M/s. Kamal Builders at much lower price than what was paid by the other purchasers. The departmental enquiry was ordered on 16.4.1986. Commissioner for departmental enquiry is the Inquiry Officer. In the meanwhile the Central Bureau of Investigation have taken up the case for investigation.