

Sl. No.	High Court	Date from which office of Chief Justice is vacant
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5-7-1984
2.	Gauhati	15-11-1984
3.	Punjab & Haryana	29-11-1983
4.	Sikkim	4-1-1985

The matter regarding appointment of regular Chief Justices in these High Courts is engaging the attention of the Government in consultation with the authorities specified in Articles 217 and 222 of the Constitution.

Exploration of Oil and Gas Around Indian Coast

*118. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted about the possibility of oil in deep waters and the reserve of oil and gas present around the Indian coast;

(b) if so, the findings and the area in which oil is available; and

(c) the steps being taken to explore oil and gas from that area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). As a result of survey several structures have been identified in water depths of more than 200 metres on the East Coast. Drilling was undertaken in two such structures in Krishna-Godavari Basin and oil and gas has been found. The quantities established so far do not justify commercial production.

Some prospects of hydrocarbons have also been identified in Offshore Andaman and would be taken up for drilling.

Allotment of Maruti Cars

*119. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the interests of customers who have made deposits for Maruti Cars, are being neglected, as is evident from the fact that a new model is being introduced for which new buyers will be allotted new cars;

(b) whether it is a fact that no interest is being paid on the deposits made for Maruti Cars by customers; instead, the prices have been increased; and

(c) whether the company has produced 25,000 cars but the buyers, whose allotment nos. are well below 20,000 have not yet received their Cars ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir. When Maruti introduces a new model of the Maruti-800 Car, it will continue to be distributed to those customers who have booked for the Maruti—800 car, in accordance with the existing priority lists.

(b) No, Sir. Customers are paid interest on deposits made by them after vehicles are delivered to them. Prices of Maruti vehicles were increased with effect from 1.4.1985.

(c) Allotment numbers to customers were given for each dealer-city, running from 1 to the number of Cars booked for that city. The distribution of the Cars produced has been made in accordance with the allotment numbers for the dealer cities, and broadly in proportion to the bookings in these cities.

Black Marketing in Sale of Bajaj and Priya Scooters

*120. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases have been brought to the notice of Government regarding the sale of Bajaj and Priya scooters in black market;

(b) if so, whether it is done at the time of taking delivery of scooters; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY