

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

AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b). Although possibilities of some such transactions cannot be ruled out, there is no specific information regarding this with the Government.

(c) There is a ban on resale of motorised two wheelers including scooters within two years of the first purchase under the Two-Wheeler Vehicles (Restriction on Resale) Order, 1981. The State transport authorities do not register transfer of these vehicles within the stipulated period of two years unless permission has been given by the Controller for such transfer. Simultaneously Government has taken several steps to improve availability of good quality two-wheelers to meet projected demand.

Hired premises of Bharat Leather Corporation at Madras

1051. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Leather Corporation hired premises for its emporium at Madras in November, 1981 at a rent of Rs. 20,000 per month besides a security deposit of Rs. 1.5 lakhs;

(b) whether it was physically taken over only sometime in January, 1983; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof and action taken against those responsible for putting BLC to a loss of Rs. 2.80 lakhs by way of rent for the unoccupied period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Bharat Leather Corporation hired the premises in question in December, 1981 at a rent of Rs. 14,600/- per month with a security deposit of Rs. 87,600/- and the premises were physically taken over in January, 1982.

(c) Does not arise.

Registration of delicensed industries

1052. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have invited applications for registration of delicensed industries;

(b) if so, the reasons and the number of such industries;

(c) the reasons why these industries were delicensed; and

(d) whether registration of delicensed units is being done in accordance with the prescribed rules ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c). As a result of review of licensing policy/procedures, 25 broad groups of industries and 82 bulk drugs and formulations were delicensed in March and June, 1985. The criteria for selection of these industries included need for creation of further capacity in these industries, export possibilities, industries requiring high technology input, industries of national importance and mass-consumption industries.

The delicensed industrial undertakings are required to apply to the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals in Department of Industrial Development for registration.

(d) The procedure and guidelines for this registration have been laid down in the Department of Industrial Development Press Note dated 25.4.95.

Tyre Industry facing Problem of overcapacity

1053. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tyre industry is facing problem of under-utilization of capacity and the consequent idling of installed capacity; and

(b) if so, the details regarding tyre industry's demand for diversification of tyre units for production of steel conveyor belting and policy of Government in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COM-