

**Crash of IAF Plane near Tejpur**

\*316. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:  
SHRI MANIK REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in "The Hindustan Times" dated 13th January, 1988 wherein it has been stated that an Indian Air Force Fighter plane crashed near Tejpur on 11 January, 1988; and

(b) whether any inquiry has since been conducted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a) Yes, Sir. An IAF aircraft crashed near Tejpur Airfield on the 11th January, 1988.

(b) A Court of Inquiry is in progress. However, its findings and recommendations would be classified and cannot be disclosed in the public interest.

**Lok Adalats**

\*317 SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) how many Lok Adalats have been held in the country so far;

(b) the percentage of reduction of admissions in the courts on account of establishment of Lok Adalats; and

(c) the alternative measures being taken by Union Government to reduce the case in the courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY):

(a) On the basis of the information available with the CILAS, 1658 Lok Adalats have been held in different parts of the country by the middle of February, 1988.

(b) Total number of cases disposed of in Lok Adalats up to end of 1987 was above a million. At Lok Adalats disputes which have not gone before courts are also taken up. It is not possible to indicate the percentage of reduction of institution of cases in courts but it is expected that a sizeable load would be taken by the Lok Adalats.

(c) The Government have taken a series of measures to reduce the pendency in the courts. Some of the important measures are:-

(i) amendment of CPC to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from judgment of Single Judge of the High Court in the Second Appeal;

(ii) amendment of Cr. P.C. to expedite trial of criminal cases; and

(iii) the sanctioned strength of the Judges in the High Courts and the Supreme Court has been increased to 443 and 26 respectively.

In addition, High Courts and Supreme Court have taken steps to expedite disposal of cases by grouping cases involving common questions; fixing matters for hearing by giving short returnable dates; dispensing with the printing of records in many cases; Constitution of Specialised Benches; adoption of Computer technology etc. Further, the Government has entrusted the Law Commission to study the Judicial System and to recommend necessary reforms with a view to ensuring expeditious disposal of the cases etc.