(b) The matter is under examination.

## Payment of Conveyance Allowance to Government Employees

818. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: SHRI K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Board of Arbitration has given any award to grant conveyance allowance to the non-gazetted Central Government employees;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Board of Arbitration has given the following award:—

"The non-gazetted Central Government employees, except those who actually enjoy the benefit of free or subsidised transport facility for travel between their residence and place of duty, or are in receipt of Conveyance Allowance for that purpose, shall be given a transport, subsidy of Rs. 30/-(Rupees thirty only) per employee, per month. This award shall take effect on and from the 1st day of April, 1989."

(c) The above Award is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

## Vacant posts of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court

819. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: SHRI A. ASOKARAJ: SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 22 December, 1989 to Starred Question No. 5 regarding vacancies of judges in Supreme Court and High Courts and state:

- (a) whether a number of posts of judges of High Courts and Supreme Court are still lying vacant;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government to fill up soon the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTEROF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). In the High Courts, there are 94 vacancies in the total sanctioned strength of 462 permanent Judges and Additional Judges as per details in attached statement. In the Supreme Court, there is 1 vacancy in the authorised strength of 26 Judges.

(c) Since the present Government assumed office in December, 1989, appointments of 3 Judges in the Supreme Court and 21 Judges in different High Courts have been approved. Consultation with the authorities specified in Article 217 of the Constitution has taken time as one or more of the functionaries concerned have changed in the recent past. Efforts have been made to expedite the consultative process.

## STATEMENT

Statement showing the strength and vacancies in various High Courts as on 1.3.1990

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