

Uniform Civil Code for All Citizens

10776. SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to secure for all citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India in accordance with Article 44 embodying one of the important Directive Principles of State Policy,

(b) if so, when a Bill for the purpose would be introduced in Parliament, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) to (c). There is no proposal before the Government to bring a Uniform Civil Code throughout the territory of India. Enactment of a Uniform Civil Code will require changes in personal laws of the minority communities. Policy of the Government has been that no change would be effected in the personal laws of a minority community whether through the device of a Uniform Civil Code or through the enactment of a law applicable to a particular minority community unless the initiative therefor comes from the community itself. So far no such initiative has come from the minority communities.

Increase in production of Phosphatic fertilizers

10777. SHRI KUMARI ANANTHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state since the consumption of phosphatic fertilizers in India has gone up 37 per cent in 1977-78 over 1976-77 against the world average increase of 2.87 per cent and in the background of anticipated increase in the demand of ammonia in 1979-80 to

the tune of 60 million tonnes, the steps being taken by Government to increase the production capacity for phosphatic fertilizers within the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): The installed capacity for production of phosphatic fertilizers is, at present, of the order of 10.80 lakh tonnes of P_2O_5 . With the commissioning of Sindri Rationalisation and Haldia projects, the capacity would increase to about 13 lakh tonnes of P_2O_5 . Planning is under way for creation of additional phosphate capacity to meet the increasing demand for phosphatic fertilizers. The proposal of M/s. Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited for substantial expansion of their existing capacity at Kandla has been approved. Locational and other studies for new phosphatic fertilizer projects have also been undertaken.

Cases pending before Supreme Court

10778. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases, category-wise, at present pending disposal in the Supreme Court of India and the periods for which they have been pending; and

(b) the number of such cases pending for more than five years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) & (b). The number of regular hearing matters pending in the Supreme Court of India as on 1-1-1979 was 15,256. The details are given in the attached statement. The number of cases pending for more than five years as on 1-1-1979 was 4,669.

Statement

Year-wise break up of various categories of Regular Hearing Matters pending in the Supreme Court as on 1-1-1979.

Description of cases	Less than one year old	Over 10 years old										Total	Number of cases pending for more than five years
		1 to 2 years old	2 to 3 years old	3 to 4 years old	4 to 5 years old	5 to 6 years old	6 to 7 years old	7 to 8 years old	8 to 9 years old	9 to 10 years old	10 years old		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS.													
Tax Appeals	89	1	10	4	16	30	22	1	2	..	..	175	55
Service matters	6	..	..	3	13	3	..	1	..	..	..	26	4
Other Civil Appeals	164	87	26	28	20	49	24	8	3	..	..	409	84
Writ Petitions	203	478	123	18	31	87	69	5	1	..	..	1015	162
NON-CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS													
Tax Appeals	399	636	349	357	239	186	91	6	..	..	..	2263	283
Labour Appeals	75	75	39	32	44	56	46	38	2	..	..	407	142
Election Petitions	49	3	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56	..
Other Civil Appeals	1469	1762	578	768	708	582	1086	808	710	479	30	8980	3695
Criminal Appeals	410	362	339	269	281	160	103	1	..	..	..	1925	264
Total	2864	3404	1465	1482	1352	1153	1411	868	718	479	30	15256	4689