

Pending cases of road accident victims

2745. SHRI KUSHOK THIKSEY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of petitions filed by the various State Governments' Transport Authorities pertaining to the road accident victims whose cases have been decided by lower courts on merit basis have been lying pending in different High Courts for a long time;

(b) whether Government propose to issue categorical directions to the High Court to dispose of these cases within the shortest possible time in order to mitigate the enormous hardships being faced by the road accident victims; and

(c) if so, details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Disposal of cases by courts is the substantive function of the Judiciary and the Government cannot and does not intervene in the matter.

Pending cases of bouncing of cheques in various courts

2746. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases relating to bouncing of cheques are pending for disposal in various courts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to amend Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act to deal sternly with this growing menace; and

(d) if so, by when this Section is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Statement of pending cases on the basis of available information as in October, 2001, State-wise is enclosed (See below).

(c) and (d) Based on the recommendations of the various committees including the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance,