

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons put forth by the State in this regard; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to ensure that the State sets up the earmarked number of fast track courts in the State within a time-frame?

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

(b) As per available information, out of the 86 fast track courts earmarked for the State 46 fast track courts have been established by Government of Andhra Pradesh. Out of above, 22 courts are already functioning and the remaining 24 fast track courts are likely to be functional soon.

According to the Registry of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, the main reason why the said courts could not be established is the non-availability of accommodation in the existing court buildings. However, construction of 86 court buildings for the fast track court is under progress. After the completion of the said court buildings, the remaining 40 fast track courts will also start functioning.

(c) The then Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs *vide* his letter dated 27th May, 2002 has requested the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to set up full number of fast track courts within three months as directed by the Supreme Court on 6th May, 2002, in the case of Brij Mohan Lal Vs, Union of India and Others.

Purchase of information technology products

42. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Audit has objected to ad-hoc purchase of information technology products and flouting rules of purchase by his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed against those responsible for purchase favouring a single party despite inflated prices quoted by it which was much higher than DGS&D rates and market prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Local Audit Party of C & A G during annual inspection of the accounts/records of the Ministry for the year 2001- 2002 had sought certain clarifications, which have already been provided to them.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.