

[21 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

Department of Company Affairs have formulated a Citizen's Charter to implement the policies and procedures of the Department for the benefit of public, investors and corporate sector. It lays a time frame for expeditious resolution of complaints from the investors and processing of applications from public/corporate sector under various sections of the Companies Act, 1956. The prescribed time frame ranges from 2 working days to 90 days. The complaints regarding delay in issue of allotment letters and Share/debenture certificates, refund of application money, delay in transfer of shares and non payment of dividend/interest on shares/debentures/fixed deposits etc. are required to be settled within 8 time frame of 30 days.

The Citizen's Charter was adopted in August, 1999. The Regional Directors of the Department have been asked to ensure adherence to the time schedules and constantly review the implementation of the Charter. The first quarterly review is scheduled in January, 2000.

Matching grant for development of infrastructure of Courts in Madhya Pradesh

2095. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an amount of Rs. 52,37,91,586/has been spent for the development of infrastructure of Courts by the Government of Madhya Pradesh during the year 1993-94 to 1998-99 and 50% amount of this expenditure has not been received from the Centre; what action is being taken by Central Government in this regard; and

(b) what action is being taken by Central Government to fill up eight posts of judges in Madhya Pradesh High Court?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) An amount of Rs. 2039.40 lakhs has been released to Government of Madhya Pradesh as Central share from 1993-94 to 1998-99 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the development of infrastructural facilities for the Judiciary. Against this, as per the information available, the State of Madhya Pradesh has spent a cumulative amount of Rs. 5647.94 lakhs till 1998-99.

The funds under the scheme are allocated to various States on the basis of the criterion laid down by the Planning Commission. The expenditure is shared by the Central and State Governments on 50:50 basis. The Central share is restricted on the basis of funds made available by the Planning Commission. However, the State Government are free to spend more funds than the required matching share as per their own resources.

(b) The procedure for appointment of Judges of the High Courts involves consultations with several constitutional authorities. The process of consultations is on.

Reforms in Judicial System

2096. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has appointed a commission to bring suitable reforms in the judicial system and to study the Constitution; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) No sir,

(b) Does not arise.

Making Ports Profitable

2097. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to mobilise resources in order to make the loss making ports viable; and

(b) if so, the details of such proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. All the Major Port Trusts are earning profits.