

(d) if so, what is status of the request?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) The Special Subject Group on the 'Administrative & Legal Simplifications' set up by the Prime Minister's Council on Trade and Industry has recommended setting up of three National Law Schools in the northern, western and southern regions of the country on the pattern of the National Law School, Bangalore. Regarding this recommendation, no final decision has been taken by the government as yet.

(c) No Sir,

(d) Does not arise.

Marriage and Divorce Laws

2091. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Laws related to marriage and divorce are not in accordance with the present status of women; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to make these Laws relevant?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) There are different laws relating to marriage and divorce in India applicable to persons belonging to different religions. Some of them are codified and some of them are uncoded. The customary laws govern the scheduled tribes. The subject of Personal Law falls under the Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and therefore Parliament and the State Legislatures, subject to the provisions of clause (2) of article 254 of the Constitution, are competent to undertake necessary legislative measures in this regard. There are various State amendments to the Central Acts brought on different occasions as per the need of the social situation obtaining in such States. The social conditions, social culture and societal acceptance, requirements and acceptability of the society are certain

factors governing modifications in the Personal Law. The status of women also form part of such factors. In the circumstances it is not correct to make a general statement that the law related to marriage and divorce are in accordance with the present status of women or otherwise. As and when the social conditions require and permit changes in the personal laws, those are brought by the appropriate legislature.

Survey for Setting up of Lok Adalats in States

2092. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a chain of permanent Lok Adalats throughout the country as reported in the Times of India dated 16th November, 1999;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted to find out the locations in each State where such Lok Adalats would be set up;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the nature of cases to be disposed off in such Lok Adalats and to what extent it will affect the various other courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) the Government has decided to set-up a Permanent Lok Adalat for Government cases at Patiala House.

However, the Central Authority constituted under section 3 of the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987 has decided to set-up Permanent Lok Adalats in all the districts throughout the country.

(b) and (c) As far as possible, Permanent Lok Adalats are to be set up in the premises of the courts and within the vicinity of State Legal Services Authorities.

(d) All civil, criminal cases which are compoundable, revenue matters, family and matrimonial disputes, land acquisition cases, bank loan cases and motor accident claim cases etc. are being referred to and are disposed off by such Lok Adalats. These Lok Adalats are