

Increase in the number of per capita judges

†2085. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the news-item titled "Desh ke prati dus lakh logo ke liye 10 Nyaydhish bhi nahi" which appeared in the Dainik Jagran dated 23rd November, 1999;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any scheme for increasing the number of per capita judge so that public may get early and appropriate justice; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER FOR LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The 11th Law Commission in its 120th Report, had, inter alia, recommended that the present strength of 10.5 Judges per million population be increased to 50 Judges per million population.

In September, 1999, there were 12.8 Judges per million population in India as per information contained in the Report of the first National Judicial Pay Commission.

Judge strength of the Subordinate Judiciary is determined by the State Governments in consultation with their respective High Courts. The Law Commission's Report had been accordingly, forwarded to all State Governments.

The matter relating to increase in Judge strength has now become sub judice in view of W.P. No. 399/98 alongwith I.A. No. 1 filed in the Supreme Court of India.

But the Government is prima facie of the view that the number of Judges does require to be increased almost at all levels.

Appointment of Notary Public in Punjab

2086. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDRAM: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the process of appointment of Notary Public for village Reghapurana, Distt. Moga, Punjab has been completed;