

Sainik Samachar

465. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Defence Ministry proposed to introduce Kannada edition of SAINIK SAMACHAR, news-magazine, some years back;

(b) if so, whether the Kannada edition has come out, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the Kannada edition is likely to be published?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Kannada edition could not be brought out so far due to lack of suitable editorial staff and some delay in finalisation of a printer.

(c) All efforts are being made to bring out the inaugural issue of the Kannada edition within the next two months.

in Supreme Court

466. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the backlog of cases in the Supreme Court as on 31st October, 1988;

(b) whether the backlog of cases is increasing or decreasing;

(c) what are the measures contemplated to speed up the cases in view of the heavy backlog of pending cases in Supreme Court;

(d) what is the ratio of Supreme Court Judges in relation to population, filling of cases and other relevant parameters in our country when compared to developed countries; and

(e) the number of vacancies of judges in Supreme Court and the reasons for delay in the appointment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) As per information furnished by the Registry of the Supreme Court the backlog of cases in the Court as on 30th June, 1988 is as follows:

Regular Hearing Matters	39936
Admission and Miscellaneous Matters	146014
TOTAL	185950

(b) The number of cases is increasing.

(c) A statement indicating the steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency of cases in the Supreme Court is attached in Statement (See below)

(d) In India, the strength of Judges in Supreme Court is determined by institution/pendency of cases and on the basis of proposal sent by the Chief Justice of India, from time to time. No study regarding ratio of Supreme Court Judges in relation to population and in comparison to developed countries has been undertaken. The strength of the Supreme Court Judges was raised to 26 Judges (including the Chief Justice of India) by enactment of the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) (Amendment) Act, 1986.

(e) As on 10th November, 1988, there were 11 vacancies of Judges in Supreme Court against the sanctioned strength of 26 Judges (including the Chief Justice of India). The process of consultation for filling up the vacancies takes time.

Statement

1. The judge strength of the Supreme Court has been raised from 18 to 26 (including the Chief Justice, with effect from 9th May, 1986 by amending the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act 1956.